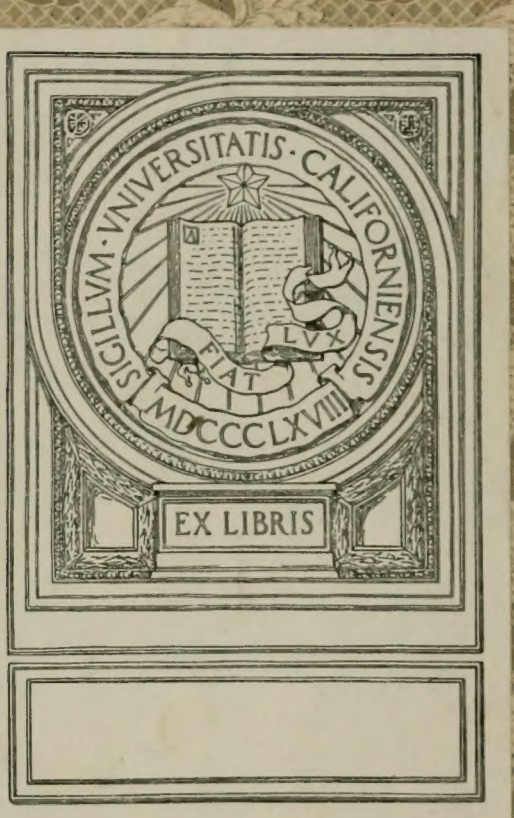
History of the Swedes of Illinois


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HISTORY

OF THE

SWEDES OF ILLINOIS



The Linné Monument, Lincoln Park, Chicago

HISTORY

OF THE

Swedes of Illinois

PART I

UNIV. OF CALIFORNIA

EDITED BY

ERNST W. OLSON

IN COLLABORATION WITH

ANDERS SCHÖN AND MARTIN J. ENGBERG

ILLUSTRATED

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INTRODUCTION

WHEN in the forties of the last century the great influx of Swedish immigrants to the United States began, by far the largest number settled in Illinois. Even at that early period Swedes had begun to form sporadic settlements in the territory to the north and west, but these were of little consequence as compared to the populous Swedish communities that sprang up in the soil of the Prairie State.

The Swedes of Illinois, therefore, rank as the pioneers of this great migratory movement. In later years they have been outnumbered by the Swedes of Minnesota, and nearly all the western and many of the eastern states now have each a very considerable Swedish population, yet the Illinois Swedes retain pre-eminence from a historical point of view.

Illinois was the central point from which the Swedish population spread in various directions, chiefly to the west and the northwest. The Swedish settlements in the eastern states and on the Pacific slope are of more recent date and have no direct connection with the pioneer history of Illinois.

In intellectual culture as well as in material development the Swedes of this state led the way for their countrymen in other parts. In Illinois we meet with the first properly organized Swedish churches —the mother churches of no less than five distinct denominations. In Illinois was founded the first Swedish-American newspaper of permanence, and the great bulk of the Swedish publishing business in this country has always been done here. In Illinois was founded the first Swedish-American institution of learning, followed in later years by a score of others, but still remaining the foremost educational institution among the Swedish people of the United States. In Illinois were put forth their first endeavors in the literary field, which, although modest, yet formed the nucleus of a distinct literature. In the cultivation of the fine arts of music and painting as well as in manufacture, craftsmanship, invention and industrial art, the Swedes of Illinois also led, and in the succeeding pages will be found the names of Swedish pioneers in a variety of fields.

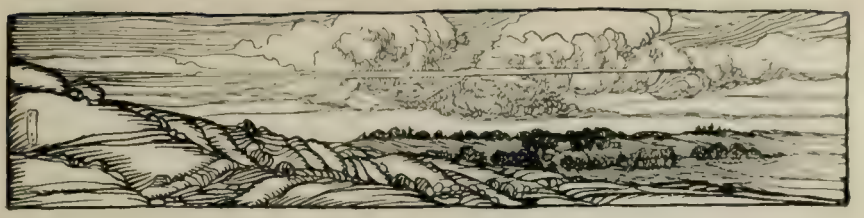
In public life Swedes have been active in this state principally after the close of the Civil War. In that conflict large numbers of them fought as volunteers, contributing skillful commanders and brilliant tacticians as well as gallant soldiers in the ranks. Their

military history goes back not only to the Civil and Mexican Wars, for there were Swedes also among the Illinois troops in the War of 1812. In the politics of this state a Swede made his mark while Illinois was still a territory.

Chicago being one of the first points settled by the Swedes and having gradually grown to be their greatest center of population, also became the center of culture, and this city is, in a figurative sense, the Swedish-American capital.

Illinois having thus become, from the first, the seat of culture as well as the fountain-head of material development among the Swedish-Americans in general, it is fair to assume that the Swedes of this state in the past sixty years have exerted an appreciable influence not alone upon their fellow-countrymen elsewhere, but also upon the civic life of the state and the nation.

The story of the Swedes of Illinois, showing the part they have played in the making of this commonwealth, is here told for the first time in the English language and thus placed within ready access of the general public.



CHAPTER I

Summary of the History of Illinois

Early French Explorations in North America

NOT long after the discovery of the West Indies by Christopher Columbus, in 1492, and the successive discoveries of Central and South America, those regions were explored and settled by Europeans, while the colonization of the North American continent was accomplished only by slow degrees. Although re-discovered in 1497 by John Cabot, after having been found originally by Leif Eriksson and his Norse followers about five hundred years earlier, and explored during the first half of the sixteenth century by parties landing here and there on the southern, eastern and western coasts and penetrating into the interior, it was not until the early part of the seventeenth century that the European nations obtained a firm foothold in this part of the New World. So slow was their westward progress that the discovery of the Pacific coast was practically without results up to the latter part of the eighteenth century, when finally the first successful colonies were founded.

The Spanish, the French, the English, and to a slight extent, the Dutch share the credit for the discovery and exploration of the various parts of the North American Continent. The Spaniards directed their energies principally to the South, the Southwest and the West, the French traversed and colonized the extreme eastern part, the region of the Great Lakes and the Mississippi, the English settled the eastern coast from Maine to South Carolina and the Dutch a limited area on the Hudson River.

Sweden also claims a chapter in the colonial history of this country. Through the colony of New Sweden, founded in 1638, extending over part of the present territory of Delaware, Pennsylvania and New Jersey, and conquered by the Dutch in 1655, Sweden contributed

a noteworthy share toward the earliest development of North American civilization.

The discovery and primary colonization of the territory now forming the state of Illinois was the work of the French explorers and pioneers. Before narrating these events, let us view, in retrospect, their causes and the historical factors leading up to them.

As early as 1504 the French began to frequent the banks of New Foundland attracted by the abundance of fish in these waters. These fishing expeditions have continued to this day, and but for them the French government might never have had its attention directed to this part of America. King Francis I., in 1524, sent an Italian traveler, John Verrazani, to explore these regions. He sailed along the coast from the present site of Wilmington, North Carolina, to Nova Scotia and, without founding any colonies, took possession, in the name of the French crown, of the entire territory termed New France.

Ten years later, in 1534, a Frenchman by the name of John Cartier, discovered the St. Lawrence River and on his second expedition sailed up the river as far as the present city of Montreal. On his third expedition, in 1541, he founded Quebec, a fort which formed the center of a penal colony, recruited from the French prisons. In 1541 a French nobleman by the name of Francois de la Roque had been appointed viceroy of New France. He arrived and took up his duties two years later, but finding his province a wilderness and his subjects deported criminals, he returned to France within a year.

During the next fifty years the public mind of France was entirely engrossed with the strife between the nobility and the royal house on the one hand and the equally bitter conflict between the Calvinists and the Catholics on the other; meanwhile the colonial interests in the New World were well-nigh forgotten. Not until the beginning of the seventeenth century the project was revived. Samuel Champlain, a noted naval officer, having explored anew the shores of the St. Lawrence (1603), Sieur de Monts, a Calvinist, received a large portion of this territory as a grant from the government. Two years later he founded Port Royal, which rapidly grew to be a large and flourishing settlement.

In the meantime the cause of converting the Indians of New France to the Christian faith was taken up in the mother country, and numerous missionaries, many of them Jesuits, were sent among the natives, gaining great prestige among them in a short time, owing to their judicious methods. Missionaries, fur traders, settlers and soldiers soon found a basis of operation in the settlement of Quebec (1608) and that of Montreal (1641), from which points they gradually pushed on along the St. Lawrence River, into the region of the Great Lakes, and through

the Mississippi basin, planting the Catholic standard of the Cross and the flag of the fleur de lis in the Indian villages as far down as the Mississippi delta. In a short time France laid claim not only to all of Canada, but to Maine, Vermont, New York, the two Carolinas, as well as the entire territory between the Alleghanies and the Mississippi.

It was during this gradual conquest of the West and the South that Illinois was first seen and traversed by white men. As early as 1641 French missionaries had penetrated to the outlet of Lake Superior, and in 1658 traders had visited the western end of the lake. Among French missions founded in these distant regions after the year 1660 was one at Green Bay, Wis., established in 1669, and named after St. Francis Xavier.

The French learned through the Indians at this and other missions that a journey of several days would bring them to the banks of a great river, known among the natives, on account of its size, as the Mississippi, the Father of Waters. This fact was reported to the French governor at Quebec, who determined to take possession of the river and adjacent regions. In order to carry out this enterprise without molestation, it was necessary to obtain the friendship and co-operation of the tribes dwelling along its banks. For this purpose Nicholas Perrot was dispatched westward in 1671, with instructions to assemble the surrounding tribes in council at Green Bay. After this meeting Perrot set out with an escort of Pottawatomie Indians on his journey southward, traversing what is now Illinois and visiting, among other points, the present site of Chicago, then included in the territory of the Miami Indians. Perrot is said to have been the first European to have set foot on Illinois soil.

In the following year two Jesuit fathers, Claude Allouez and Claude Dablon, left the Green Bay mission on a journey to western and northern Illinois, visiting the Fox Indians along the Fox River and the Masquotin tribe that dwelt at the mouth of the Milwaukee River. These missionaries claimed to have extended their explorations as far as Lake Winnebago.

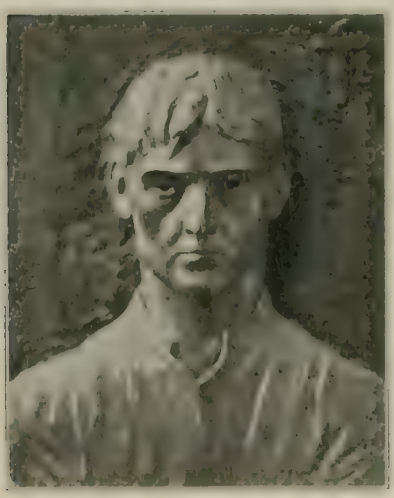
Explorations of Marquette and Joliet

Father Jacques Marquette and Louis Joliet, a fur trader, were subsequently commissioned to continue the exploration of the Mississippi and the territory through which it flows. In the spring of 1673 they entered upon their task, accompanied by five other Frenchmen and two Indian guides, and supplied with two canoes. Starting from the St. Ignace mission, opposite Mackinaw Island, they followed the north shore of Lake Michigan. They soon reached Green Bay and the St. Francis Xavier mission, the uttermost outpost of French civilization



The Departure of Marquette and Joliet on Their First Voyage to Illinois

westward and southward. Here the party rested until June, and then pressed on into the wilderness. They traveled up the Fox River as far as the ridge forming the Wisconsin watershed, and, carrying their canoes across, proceeded down the Wisconsin River to their sought-for goal, arriving the 17th of June on the banks of the majestic Mississippi. Enraptured by its grandeur, and mindful of the divine protection of



Jacques Marquette



Louis Joliet

the Virgin throughout his perilous journey, Father Marquette in her honor named it Conception River.

The exploring party took a short rest on the banks of the great river, but soon embarked, more eager than ever. Floating down with the current, they had on either hand vast stretches of prairie, where the bison roamed in countless herds, but not a human being did they see. It was like traveling through a mysterious land whose inhabitants

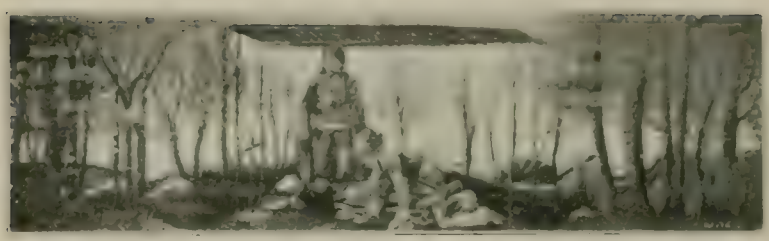


"We are Illini"

some strange power had spirited away. The mouth of the Des Moines River was reached June 25th. On these shores human footprints were discovered at last. Following up the tracks for about two leagues, the party came upon three Indian villages, beautifully located on the banks of the Des Moines, belonging to the Peoria tribe.

As soon as the natives noticed the strangers, four chiefs set out to meet them. "Who are you?" demanded Father Marquette, in the Algonquin dialect. "We are Illini," one of the chiefs replied. The Peorias belonged to a coalition of tribes, including also the Moingwenas, the Kaskaskias, the Tamaroas and the Cahokias. The name Illini meant simply men, and had been adopted by these tribes to distinguish them from their hereditary foes to the eastward, the Iroquois, whom they abhorred on account of their cruel and bloodthirsty disposition, deeming them no better than brutes. In course of time the name Illini was altered by means of the French suffix -ois, and finally this name was applied not only to the Indian tribes but to all the newly discovered region. When in recent years this tract was made a territory of the United States, this name was made official, and later on naturally passed to one of the states parcelled out of the territory.

The fearless little band still pressed on, arriving in July at the junction of the Missouri and Mississippi. They shortly passed the mouth of the Ohio River, reaching the confluence of the Arkansas River and the Mississippi a few days later, and found there several Indian villages. From that point the mouth of the great river was to be reached in a short time, yet Marquette and his party hesitated to proceed farther, fearing a conflict with the Spaniards, who laid claim to all the surrounding territory by right of discovery by Ferdinand de Soto in 1541. Geographically, further progress was unnecessary, Marquette being already convinced that the Mississippi emptied neither into the Atlantic, nor the Pacific, but into the Gulf of Mexico. On July 19th, therefore, he turned back, retracing his course as far as the mouth of the Illinois River, which he entered and continued up this waterway.



The Death of Marquette

At one of the villages of the Kaskaskia Indians, near the present site Utica, La Salle county, the party halted. The French named the village La Vantum, and before departing, Marquette baptized the village chief Cassagoac, together with several leading tribesmen. Continuing up the entire length of the Illinois, the party entered its tributary, the Des Plaines River, carried their canoes across the watershed between this and the Chicago River, and finally by way of the south branch of the latter reached Lake Michigan. Here they rested for several days, then pursued their way along the west shore northward to Green Bay, returning thither before the end of September the same year. Thus was the Illinois River traversed for the first time by whites, and the surrounding territory brought within the sphere of civilizing influences.

Joliet immediately returned to Quebec in order to report to Frontenac, then governor of New France, the results of the expedition, while Marquette was compelled by illness to remain at the Green Bay mission.

In spite of ill health Marquette a year later, on the 25th of October, 1674, revisited the Kaskaskia village, accompanied by two young Frenchmen, Pierre and Jacques, together with a number of Indians. Retracing the course of the journey northward, they reached the mouth of the Chicago River December 4th. Here Marquette's condition suddenly grew worse, forcing the party to tarry. Near the head of the south branch of the river his companions erected a block-house, which sheltered them until early spring, when Marquette was so far restored that they could continue their journey, arriving at their destination on the 8th of April.

In this wilderness, with no sanctuary but the primeval forest, no choristers but the winged songsters, Father Marquette, with all the solemnity that the occasion afforded, performed the Catholic mass and subsequently proclaimed the sovereignty of France over the explored territory in the name of the Savior, the Holy Virgin and all the saints. In the same year he made another tour along the Illinois, exploring thoroughly its banks and adjacent regions.

Divining that his end was near, Marquette with his companions

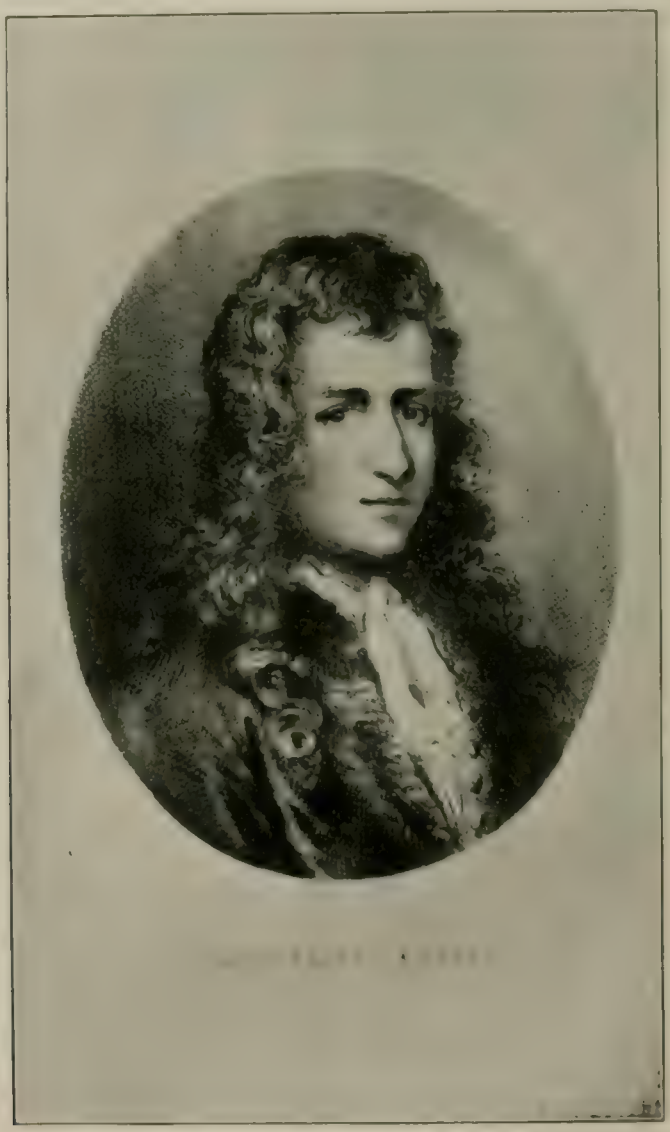
started on his way back to Canada, following the east shore of Lake Michigan, but was overtaken by death in the vicinity of present Sleeping Bear Point, in the state of Michigan, and was buried on the shore by his companions. The next year, however, Indians exhumed his remains, which were brought thence to the St. Ignace mission and solemnly interred in the mission chapel. After death, Marquette was long revered almost as a saint, to whom the sailors on Lake Michigan would pray for deliverance in the hour of danger.

Journeys of La Salle—French Forts Erected in Illinois

At this time there lived at Fort Frontenac (now Kingston), located at the point where the St. Lawrence River forms the outlet of Lake Ontario, a former Jesuit named Robert de La Salle, who had emigrated to New France in 1667. Devoting himself to fur trading, his vessels visited almost all the bays of Lakes Ontario and Erie. In 1675 he was knighted and received Frontenac as a grant from the crown on condition that he erect a fort there. He was rapidly accumulating wealth through agriculture, cattle raising and a lucrative Indian trade, when Joliet on his visit to Quebec brought him the first report of the discovery of the Mississippi. This enterprising man immediately conceived the idea of founding French settlements in the Southwest and opening up mercantile communications between France and the Mississippi region.

In pursuance of this purpose he returned to France without delay, submitted his plan to the government, and was authorized to continue the exploration begun by Marquette and Joliet, obtaining also the exclusive right to the trade in buffalo hides. He returned to New France in 1678, together with an Italian veteran by the name of Tonti, a Franciscan monk, Louis Hennepin, and carried with him a number of artisans and sailors and a large cargo of chandlers' supplies and merchandise for the Indian trade. In the fall of the year a small vessel with a capacity of ten tons was built near Fort Frontenac. In this ship La Salle and his followers soon sailed across the Ontario to the mouth of the Niagara River where a small fort was erected as a protection for a trading post. Above the falls, on the shores of the Erie, he built a sailing vessel with a tonnage of 120,000 pounds, named it the Griffin and freighted it with chandlery and ironware, designed for the fitting out of another vessel to be built on the Illinois River. The Griffin was launched August 7, 1679, with the firing of cannon and the singing of songs. This was the first sailing vessel to plow the waves of Lake Erie. With it La Salle and his crew crossed the lake, passed the straits into Lake St. Claire, sailed thence across Lake Huron and through the straits of Mackinaw, where another trading post was established, and

finally down Lake Michigan to Green Bay. Here the cargo was transferred to smaller boats for further transportation down the Illinois



René Robert Cavelier de La Salle

River, while the Griffin took a cargo of furs and returned to the starting point.

La Salle and his crew navigated Lake Michigan as far as St. Joseph, Mich., where a trading post was established, protected by



Starved Rock

palisades and known as Fort Miami. They waited until December for the return of the Griffin, but were disappointed, the vessel having gone ashore on its way back to Niagara. Then they prepared to continue their voyage. There were two routes between Lake Michigan and the Illinois River, used by the Indians from time out of mind, the one being that taken by Marquette and Joliet on their return, the other leading up the St. Joseph River to the turning-point near South Bend, Ind., and thence across the watershed to the Kankakee and down that river to the Illinois. La Salle chose the latter. His company consisted of Tonti, Hennepin, two Franciscan monks, besides thirty sailors and colonists. Reaching the aforesaid Kaskaskia Indian village, and finding it abandoned, they continued the journey down the Illinois, not stopping until they reached, on January 1, 1680, that expansion of the river called Lake Peoria. Here they found Illini Indians, with whom La Salle entered into a treaty of friendship, obtaining also permission to build a fort, which was located on the east shore of the river, near the south end of Lake Peoria.

The situation of La Salle was, however, far from enviable. Fifteen hundred miles from the nearest French outpost, his followers despairing of a successful issue of the enterprise and anxious to return, he was doubtless himself in deep distress, as evidenced by the name given to this stronghold, viz., Fort Crevecœur, meaning Broken Heart.

In spite of untoward circumstances, La Salle did not lose heart, but set about building the intended vessel. The work had not advanced far when several of his men deserted him, forcing a temporary delay and necessitating his return to Fort Frontenac to secure other workmen. With three companions he started March 1st, reaching the objective point May 6th, after many hardships and perils.

Meanwhile Hennepin and two other Frenchmen, Du Guy and Michael d'Accault, journeyed down the Illinois to the point where it empties into the Mississippi, and then started on a new exploring tour up that river. They pressed on as far as the present site of Minneapolis and discovered the great falls, named from St. Anthony of Padua, their patron saint, the St. Anthony Falls. A cross having been erected here, a mass was held and possession claimed in the name of France. All that summer they tarried in this delightful region, returning in the fall, not to Illinois, but to Green Bay.

Tonti, who had been requested to build a stronghold on a high cliff on the south shore of the Illinois, which is now known as Starved Rock, had left Fort Crevecœur simultaneously and started for that point. The fort was completed and received the appropriate name of Rockfort. While Tonti was engaged in this work nearly all the remaining Frenchmen fled, after having razed Fort Crevecœur and thrown all its supplies

into the river. Only six men of the garrison, including two priests, remained faithfully at their post. To complete the disaster, a band of Iroquois Indians arrived Sept. 10th, threatening the fortress with annihilation. The remaining Frenchmen fled. At Rockfort Tonti was taken prisoner and upon his release returned to Mackinaw.



HENRI TONTI

Upon his return the following year with the advance guard of his newly recruited force of men, La Salle, to his dismay, found both fortresses deserted. He returned with his men to Fort Miami, where he met the main body of the new expedition, and quartered it there for the winter.

In furtherance of his plans, La Salle promoted a defensive alliance between the Miami and the Illinois Indians against their old enemies the Iroquois. In December he called a council of tribesmen at Fort Miami, choosing eighteen out of their number who, together with his twenty-three Frenchmen, were to accompany him to the mouth of the Mississippi. In the meantime Tonti's whereabouts had been revealed, he was sent for and put at the head of the expedition, which started southward Dec. 21st. The supplies were carried on sleds to the Illinois and there stowed into canoes, in which the expedition embarked for the desolated Fort Crevecœur.

The half finished vessel was found almost intact. It was quickly completed, whereupon the expedition set sail for its destination. The mouth of the Mississippi was reached April 6, 1682. At length, La Salle had thus reached the goal for which he had strived untiringly for several years. The French possessions in America, which had been bounded by the Great Lakes, were now extended to the Gulf of Mexico. Nor was La Salle slow in taking possession of this vast territory with the customary ceremonies, consisting of the erection of a cross, the holding of a mass, and the planting of a standard, bearing the royal arms of France. All of this new territory was named Louisiana, in honor of Louis XIV.

The expedition returned, doubling on its former course, and at the mouth of the Illinois, Tonti, with a few men, remained to establish the claims of France by actual possession. His first work was to erect a fort as a protection against the Iroquois tribes and a nucleus for the

contemplated settlements in these parts. In December, 1682, Starved Rock was for the second time selected as the site of a fort, and the new stronghold was named Fort St. Louis. The necessity for protection against the Iroquois was all the more urgent, as these savage tribes were furnished with arms and ammunition by the English colonial governor at Albany, on the Hudson River, and sent westward to harass the French and destroy their lucrative Indian trade in the region of the Great Lakes.

La Salle now returned to Quebec in order to obtain authority to colonize the newly explored territory. Unfortunately, he found that Governor Frontenac had been recalled and replaced by La Barre, who was his personal enemy and antagonistic to his plans. In vain he pleaded with La Barre to co-operate with him in realizing the colonization plans. Where he had expected to find sympathy, he was met with derision. La Salle then resolved to return to France in order to obtain the privileges denied him by the governor, and embarked in the autumn of 1683. In the meantime, La Barre sent a man named De Baugis to Illinois to assume the command at Fort St. Louis, which was cheerfully relinquished by Tonti. Although deprived of the command, Tonti soon afterwards bravely beat back a savage attack by the Iroquois.

A better location than Starved Rock the experienced frontiersman could scarcely have found for the building of a fort. It consists of an isolated and almost inaccessible rock 130 to 140 feet in height. The side facing north toward the Illinois River is almost perpendicular, the opposite side forming a steep slope. The rounded top has an area of three-fourths of an acre. About a mile to the southward was the main village of the friendly Illinois Indians, called La Vantum and numbering at that time 6,000 or 7,000 inhabitants. With these he expected to carry on a profitable trade, while depending upon them to assist in repelling the attacks of their mutual enemies, the Iroquois. Furthermore, a fort at this point would form the strategic key to this part of the lower Illinois valley as well as the Mississippi valley.

Fort St. Louis consisted of earthworks and palisades, surrounding a storehouse and also a blockhouse, serving the double purpose of trading station and barracks for the garrison. By means of a windlass water was hoisted from the river. Two small brass cannon, mounted on the breastworks in such a position as easily to dominate both the river on the north and the plain on the south, completed the armament. The fort was solemnly dedicated by one Father Membre and soon became the favorite rendezvous of the natives of La Vantum and the surrounding country.

Although anticipating subsequent events, the history of Starved Rock may as well at this point be told to the end. Fort St. Louis was

garrisoned until 1702, when the garrison was withdrawn. As a trading post the fort was still maintained until 1718, when it was captured and burned, supposedly by the common enemy, the Iroquois Indians. The Illinois were thenceforth left in peace until 1722, when the Foxes made an unsuccessful attack. In order to avoid further molestation the



The La Salle Monument in Lincoln Park

remainder of the dwellers about the fort removed to their tribesmen that dwelled along the Mississippi. The few that stayed behind fell an easy prey to their enemies. In the year 1769 they were attacked by tribes from the north, and, being severely pressed, sought refuge on the high rock formerly covered by Fort St. Louis. Here they were besieged by the enemy for twelve days, and then, exhausted from lack of food and water, made a desperate night attack with the hope of breaking through the lines. The attempt failed totally, all but one, an Indian half-breed,

being slaughtered and scalped. Long afterwards, when the whites again began to settle here, human bones lay thickly scattered on and about the rock, as grewsome evidences of that savage battle, and to this day bones are said to be found here and there in the accumulated soil. It was this siege and the starving out of the captives that gave the name to the historic landmark, known ever afterwards as Starved Rock.

Having thus briefly sketched the history of Fort St. Louis and its famous site, we return to the story of La Salle and his colonization of Illinois.

La Salle had better success with the king of France than with his obstinate representative at Quebec. The government set aside a suitable sum to defray the expenses of colonizing the western territory, and in July, 1684, La Salle was able to return to America with a flotilla of four ships, laden with all the necessaries of the prospective settlements and carrying 280 colonists. Of this number one hundred were soldiers, the remainder farmers and their families, sailors, and members of monastic orders. The bulk of these emigrants, however, had been picked up haphazard in the cities and proved to be poor material for colony building.

After a long stay on the island of San Domingo, the expedition at length entered the Gulf and arrived in the first part of January, 1685, off the Mississippi delta, where Tonti with twenty Frenchmen and thirty Indians awaited his arrival. The expedition, however, by some miscalculation, sailed past the mouth of the river, and when La Salle discovered the mistake, he was unable to persuade Beaujeu, the commanding officer of the fleet, to turn back. He obstinately held to westward until they reached the Matagorda Bay, where they landed in boats. When the vessels subsequently entered the bay, the supply ship struck a shoal. Part of the cargo was landed during the day, but the following night a severe gale wrecked the vessel and scattered the great bulk of its cargo over the waves. To add to the disaster, the Indians of the surrounding region flocked to the shore, intent on plundering the stores saved from the wreck. A fight ensued in which several natives were killed. Two of the remaining ships immediately set sail for France, leaving La Salle and 230 Frenchmen behind, "to shift for themselves as best they might," according to the obstinate Beaujeu.

After having searched the region in all directions without finding any of the channels of the Mississippi delta, La Salle determined to found a colony with fortifications on an eminence west of Matagorda Bay. The purpose was accomplished and the settlement named St. Louis. The stores landed would have sufficed for several years, had the colonists been industrious, provident and peaceful among themselves. Being quite the reverse, the colonizing scheme thus forced upon La Salle by circumstances proved a complete failure.

In December, 1685, La Salle undertook another expedition in search of the Mississippi, but failed again. In April of the following year, accompanied by twenty men, he made an expedition to New Mexico in search of gold, but again Fortune frowned upon his undertaking. On his return the discouraging news awaited him that the colonists had been reduced to the number of forty, the remaining ship lost, and the last of the provisions consumed.

Still undaunted, La Salle determined to bring recruits and provisions from Canada. On January 12, 1687, with a company of sixteen, he started on a march northeast through the boundless wilderness. In this party he had a stanch friend in a relative of his, a young man by the name of Moranget, but also two secret enemies, Duhaut and L'Archeveque, who held La Salle responsible for the loss of all their property, which they had risked in his enterprise. At one of the tributaries of the Trinity River these men killed Moranget in a quarrel, and then lay in ambush for La Salle himself, who on his arrival at the spot was shot down by Duhaut. The slayer and his accomplice then plundered the corpse and left it on the prairie, a prey to the wild beasts. Thus ended the strenuous career of a brave and illustrious explorer.

Shortly after the foul deed the murderers and the rest of the party became involved in a fight among themselves, in which Duhaut fell, whereupon his sympathizers joined an Indian tribe. The remnant of the expedition, a small group, numbering seven men, reached Canada after an arduous journey, replete with privation and peril.

The colony thus founded by La Salle in Texas, though originally intended for Illinois, was destroyed soon afterward by Spaniards from Mexico, who invaded this region and established their claim on Texas territory.

French Missions and Colonies in Illinois

Marquette's visit to the Kaskaskia Indian village, near the present site of Utica, and the baptism of Chief Cassagoac was the first step towards christianizing Illinois. During his second visit in 1675, this zealous missionary of the church established the mission of the Immaculate Conception and built a chapel of logs and bark, the first house of worship in Illinois. This missionary work was resumed April 27, 1677, by the aforesaid Jesuit priest, Father Claude Allouez, who in 1686 took up permanent residence at the mission. He died in 1690 and was succeeded by Father James Gravier who in 1693 succeeded in establishing the mission post on a more permanent basis. A small French settlement grew up gradually on the outskirts of the Indian village.

When the French in 1699 founded a settlement at Biloxi in the present state of Mississippi, several Indian tribes of Illinois prepared

to move there and locate in the neighborhood of the colony. Among those that actually broke camp were the Kaskaskias who, however, traveled southward only as far as the river that bears their name. Here they settled down, about six miles above its confluence with the Mississippi, and built a village, to which the old Kaskaskia mission also was removed, both retaining the old name. At the head of the mission at this time was a priest named Francis Pinet. A French colony was gradually formed, which as early as 1721 had attained such development and importance that the Jesuits deemed it expedient to found a convent and a school at that point. Four years later the village was incorporated as a town by permission of King Louis XV. of France.

The reason why the French colonies were attracted to southwestern Illinois is supposed to be a desire to locate near the thoroughfare between the French settlements in Canada and those at the mouth of the Mississippi. Travelers and traders alike had now practically abandoned the route via Lake Michigan and the Chicago River for the one along the Fox and Wisconsin rivers to the Mississippi. Kaskaskia, in its most prosperous days, about the middle of the eighteenth century, numbered 2,000 to 3,000 inhabitants. Toward the end of the century this number gradually lessened, amounting in 1765, when the town was taken by the English, to only 450. Of the fate of this town we will have occasion to speak in subsequent pages.

A few months prior to the founding of the new Kaskaskia, certain French Jesuits established nearby, at or near the present location of Cahokia, St. Clair county, a mission, around which there sprang up a settlement which has the distinction of being the earliest permanent French colony in Illinois. In 1701 the mission work here was left in the hands of priests educated at the French seminary in Quebec. These eventually limited their endeavors to the French settlers, leaving the spiritual care of the natives to the Jesuits. They continued their work at Cahokia until that point was surrendered to the English. After that event this old town also began to decrease in population and importance. Farther on in the course of the narrative it will again claim our attention.

After the destruction of Fort Crevecœur, friars of the Recollect Order began a mission on the same site, but the work was soon abandoned. In 1711 we find, however, a French missionary station located on the western bank of the river and surrounded by French settlers. These were the first inhabitants of the present city of Peoria. It is positively know that there was a colony at this point in 1725.

Other French colonies grew up around the original three heretofore mentioned, such as St. Philip, forty five miles south of Cahokia, Prairie du Rocher, northwest from Kaskaskia, and west of the Mississippi, in



Ruins of Fort Chartres. The Powder Magazine. (Photograph taken in 1903.)

the present state of Missouri, St. Louis and St. Genevieve. As early as the second decade of the eighteenth century France thus possessed a considerable colony in the Mississippi valley, midway between its Canadian settlements and those founded, also in the early part of the same century, near the Gulf of Mexico. About the year 1730 these Mississippi settlers numbered 140 French families and about 600 converted Indians, together with quite a number of traders. For the protection of their midland possessions the French in 1718-20 erected Fort Chartres, sixteen miles northwest from Kaskaskia. The fort was built of limestone from an adjacent hill on a very low site, near the river bank. The ground plan was an irregular rectangle formed on three sides by stone walls of a thickness of 2 feet and 2 inches and on the fourth by a ravine which the spring freshets filled with water. This

was the seat of government in Illinois during the French colonial period. At the outbreak of the French and Indian War in 1756, the fort was rebuilt at a cost of a million French crowns and was then considered the strongest fortress on the North American continent. Its story will be continued in succeeding pages.

The Fox tribe of Indians vacillated between the English and the French in disposing of their peltries. They had control of the portages of the St. Joseph and Des Plaines rivers to Lake Michigan and exacted toll from the French traders. To remove this barrier to commerce, the French determined their destruction, and one branch of the Foxes was exterminated in 1712 by the French and their Indian allies. Massacres followed in 1716 on the Wisconsin River, and the Foxes were driven away in 1728. In 1730 they were on their way east to seek protection from the Wea Miamis in northern Indiana. They were overtaken by the French under the command of St. Ange, the commandant at Fort Chartres, and by the Kickapoo, Mascoutin and Illinois tribes. The Foxes took refuge at the Big Creek of the Rock River, in Kendall county, and built a fort. But they and their enemies were both starved, and a part of the besieging force deserted. On September 8, 1730, a violent storm arose, during which the Foxes made their escape. The next day they were overtaken and 300 warriors were killed or taken prisoners, their women and children, numbering one thousand, also falling into the hands of their enemies. The facts about this massacre were until recently buried in the archives of France

To the history of the French in Illinois may be added that slavery was introduced by them at this time. The first slave trader was Pierre F. Renault, who about 1722 sold a number of slaves to settlers at Kaskaskia. Henceforth, slavery continued in Illinois for 120 years. The constitution of 1818, when Illinois was granted statehood, forbade the bringing of slaves into the state, yet such were found up to the year 1840, when they disappeared, at least from the census records.

Illinois Under English Rule

With envious eye England watched the extension of the French possessions toward the west and the south, while its own were limited to a comparatively narrow tract along the Atlantic coast. Before long, disputes arose over the boundary lines between the English and the French possessions, resulting in a war which materially reduced the French dominion in America. The territory thus ceded to England included the present state of Illinois.

The first cause of dispute was the chartering of a colonizing syndicate, entitled The Ohio Company, consisting of eight members, among whom George Washington, the man who was to play such a decisive

part in the shaping of the civic destinies of the North American continent. The charter gave this company the right to colonize a large tract of land in the present state of Ohio. In order to obtain possession, the company began erecting a fort on the present site of Pittsburg, but the men engaged in building it were driven away by a large force of Frenchmen and Indians. This was the beginning of the French and Indian War, one of the bloodiest conflicts in the history of our country.

The war lasted from 1754 to 1759, simultaneously and in connection with the Seven Year's War in Europe. In the colonial war the Indian tribes of Canada, the region of the Great Lakes and the Ohio basin fought on the side of the French, while the Iroquois, the Delawares, the Shawnees, the Miamis, the Wyandottes and various other Indian tribes took up the cause of the English. The French colonists who fell into the hands of the English or their savage allies were treated with the utmost cruelty. The war was carried on with ever changing fortunes, until the English finally gained the upper hand. The last decisive battle was fought on the Plains of Abraham, south of Quebec, Sept. 12, 1759, where the English commander, General Wolfe, with a well trained army corps of 5,000 men utterly defeated the French army under General Montcalm, which, though numerically equal, consisted chiefly of militiamen. Of these 500 fell and 1,000 were taken prisoners. The English loss was, however, almost as great, 600 men being killed or wounded. Both generals fell. Five days after the battle Quebec, the main stronghold of New France, capitulated, whereby the key to the French possessions in America fell into the hands of Great Britain.

The preliminary peace protocol was signed at Montreal, Sept. 8, 1760, by General Amherst, the British commander-in-chief, and Governor de Vaudreuil of New France. Thereupon the English immediately began to take possession of the conquered domains. This, however, proved no easy task. From generation to generation the Indians had become warmly attached to the French and had fought side by side with them in the war just ended. No Englishman had heretofore settled northwest of the Ohio River; the Indians still held possession without the slightest fear of being dispossessed by the English. They were willing, as before, to carry on commerce with English traders, but this was the extent of their courtesies.

On Nov. 29, 1760, the British under Major Robert Rogers captured Detroit. The following summer they took possession of Michilimackinac, at the outlet of Lake Superior, also Green Bay, St. Joseph and Sandusky, which with their fortifications had remained intact during the war. This was true also of Forts Vincennes and Ouatanon on the Wabash River, as well as of the French villages and forts in Illinois. Far distant as these were from the arena of war, they had not been

threatened with attack. But before any steps had been taken to subjugate these points, the western tribes determined to drive out the English from the strongholds already captured. The brave Chief Pontiac, their leader, headed a secret conspiracy to attack and recapture at a preconcerted moment all the strongholds lost to the English. The plan was carried out and all the forts recaptured, with the exception of Detroit and Fort Pitt (Pittsburg). The Indians were again undisputed masters of the entire Northwest. They kept up the siege of Detroit until August 26, 1763, when General Bradstreet with a large force of Englishmen came to the relief of the garrison and dispersed the Indians, who for one whole year kept the place so completely blockaded that no provisions could be smuggled in. Fort Pitt was similarly besieged until General Bouquet, about the time of the relief of Detroit by Bradstreet, came to the rescue. Nothing more remained for the English to do to fulfill the terms of the protocol but to capture Forts Vincennes and Ouatanon and subdue Illinois.

Four years had elapsed since the signing of the protocol, and still the English made no show of penetrating into the wilderness, hesitating, no doubt, on account of the vast areas of forest and plain which stretched between the English colonies in the East and the French settlements in Illinois. Their first attempt was the sending of a numerous expedition by boat up the Mississippi in order to preclude attacks by Indians with French sympathies. The expedition, numbering 300 men, was led by Major Loftus. In flat-bottomed boats they left the English fort, Bayou Manchac, on the Gulf, and proceeded up the river. They were, nevertheless, soon attacked by natives of the Tonica tribe, encamped on both sides of the river, and Major Loftus had no recourse but to return.

Meanwhile, peace had been declared between France and England, also other participants in the Seven Year's War, and the treaty of Paris, signed in 1763, advanced the frontier of the English dominion in America from the Ohio to the Mississippi, thereby subjecting Illinois, nominally at least, to British rule.

While waiting for the final treaty of peace, French traders in Illinois, as heretofore, carried on their commerce in hides and furs with the Indians, disposing of their stock in St. Louis and New Orleans at high prices. This put new obstacles in the way of the final ratification of the peace treaty, for as soon as this was done the English traders would supersede the French and the commerce would seek a channel over the Great Lakes instead of the Mississippi, and England deemed the Indian trade of Illinois of so great importance that Sir William Johnson, superintendent of the British Indian Bureau, was authorized to secure control of it at once. To gain this end, Sir William Johnson

appointed George Crogan, an accomplished officer and a man of experience in similar matters, as his special commissioner. Crogan set out from Fort Pitt for Illinois in May, 1765. After various Indian skirmishes, a delegation of natives under the leadership of the haughty Chief Pontiac met him in council in the month of July, this being the first time the Indians would meet the British in peaceful negotiations. After Pontiac had agreed to cease hostilities, to use his influence for peace with kindred tribes, and in their behalf to guarantee the British undisputed possession of Illinois, Crogan had no further purpose in proceeding westward, but turned back and visited Detroit, where another council with the Indians was held. Thence he returned to Sir William Johnson, whose headquarters were on the Mohawk River, and reported the successful outcome of his mission.

In accordance with the original plan, the British military forces started from Fort Pitt in the fall of the same year to take formal possession of Illinois. It consisted of 120 men of the Forty-second Highlanders under Captain Stirling. The company arrived at Fort Chartres near the junction of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers on October 10th. The same day the French flag was hauled down and the British colors hoisted in its stead. Henceforth Illinois was British territory in fact as well as in name.

The first official act after the occupation of Fort Chartres was the issuance of a proclamation guaranteeing to the inhabitants civil and religious liberty. The latter was all that these Frenchmen coveted, holding, as they did, that hardly anything could be done to extend their political freedom. But the idea of reorganizing their communities along British lines, with various office holders, did not enter their mind. They continued their patriarchal form of village government, with the priest as chief advisor in worldly as well as spiritual affairs.

Three months after his arrival at Fort Chartres, Captain Stirling died and Major Frazier succeeded him as governor of Illinois. Though under British rule, the French pioneers continued so peaceful and law-abiding that the British troops in the spring of 1766 were sent away as superfluous. The soldiers departed by way of the Mississippi, destined for Pensacola, Florida, whence they sailed for Philadelphia, arriving June 15th.

One Colonel Reed succeeded Frazier as governor, but his despotic manner brought him into such disfavor with the people, that he was soon in turn succeeded by Colonel Wilkins, who arrived at Kaskaskia Sept. 5, 1768. The 21st of that month the new governor was ordered by General Gage, his superior, to establish a court at Fort Chartres. Seven judges were consequently appointed and on Dec. 9th of that year the first English court of law in Illinois opened its sessions. After existing

for a century without a court of law, the French had established such a court in 1722.

The principles of British territorial government were clearly set forth in the proclamation of Oct. 24, 1765, by King George the Third, and in the successive proclamation of 1772. In these acts private ownership of realty was forbidden, which fact leads one to believe that the government purposed to divide the land in large estates to be granted to favorites by the crown. Fortunately, British supremacy in Illinois did not last long enough to bring about a system so dangerous to the future development of the territory.

June 2, 1774, the British parliament adopted an act, known as the Quebec Bill, by which the boundaries of Canada were extended so as to embrace all of the territory north of the Ohio River. This was the first action of parliament that aroused actual dissatisfaction among the colonists, principally those of Virginia. It encroached upon the territory of that colony, whose original grant stretched across the Ohio, and was particularly odious to the private colonizing companies which at that time planned to direct emigration into the valley of the Ohio. Certain acts of Lord Dunmore, the last colonial governor of Virginia, angered the people on the frontier, and they made their displeasure known in a way that unmistakably presaged a coming uprising, long before any revolutionary tendencies could be discerned in Boston and Philadelphia.

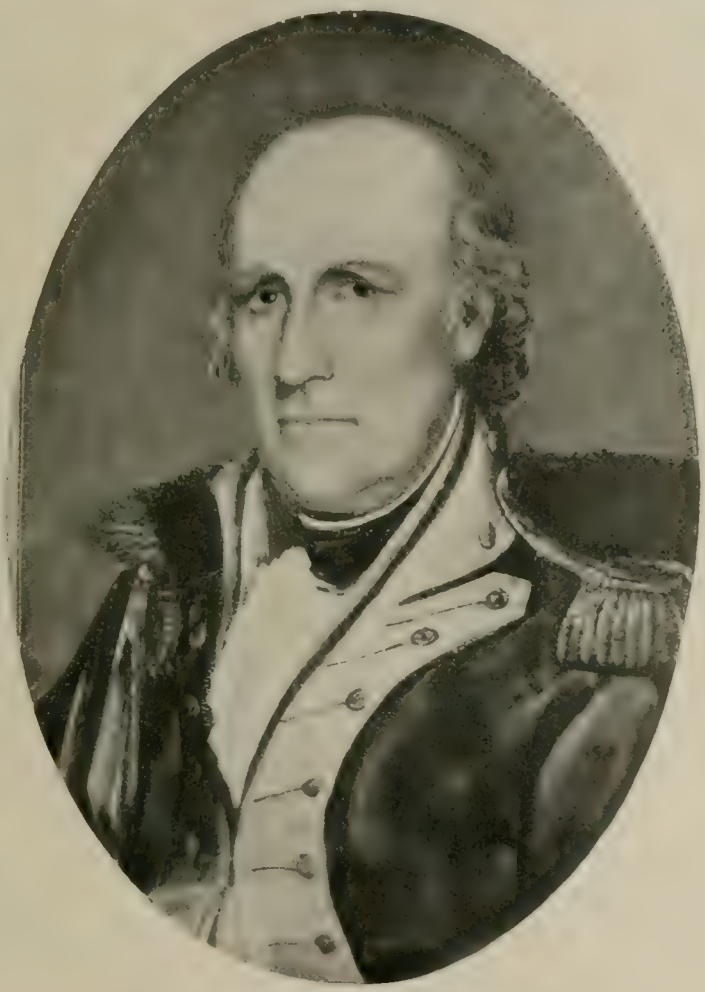
Captain Hugh Lord seems to have been the last of the English governors of Illinois, and no more troops were sent there. The population, now made up of half-breeds as well as French and Indians, was left to govern itself under the direction of Philippe Francois de Rastel, Chevalier de Rocheblave, in the capacity of military commander, territorial governor and judge of the provincial council. Rocheblave was the last commander in Illinois under British sovereignty, continuing in that capacity until the Americans claimed possession.

Fort Chartres remained the seat of government until 1772, when one side of the fort was destroyed by a Mississippi flood. On a hill near the Kaskaskia River, opposite the town of the same name, the English erected Fort Gage the same year, making this the administrative headquarters. Fort Gage was built entirely of wood, being inferior to the former stronghold now left to fall into ruin. The river floods have long since completed the work of demolition, leaving no vestige of this whilom proud and forbidding citadel.

The American Occupation

The Continental Congress, made up of representatives of the thirteen colonies, assembled in Philadelphia Sept. 5, 1774. This con-

gress soon set about forming an American home government to take the place of the British, which had became oppressive and odious. On June 13th of the following year three Indian departments were instituted, viz., the Southern, the Northern and the Central, the last named embracing Illinois. As its officers were chosen Benjamin Frank-



Brigadier General George Rogers Clark

lin and James Wilson of Pennsylvania, and Patrick Henry of Virginia. Owing to the remoteness of the territory under their supervision no practical benefits accrued to it, the plan simply denoting the first official act in the acquirement of the western territory.

On April 10, 1776, Col. George Morgan, a former trader at Kaskaskia, was appointed Indian Agent for this department to succeed

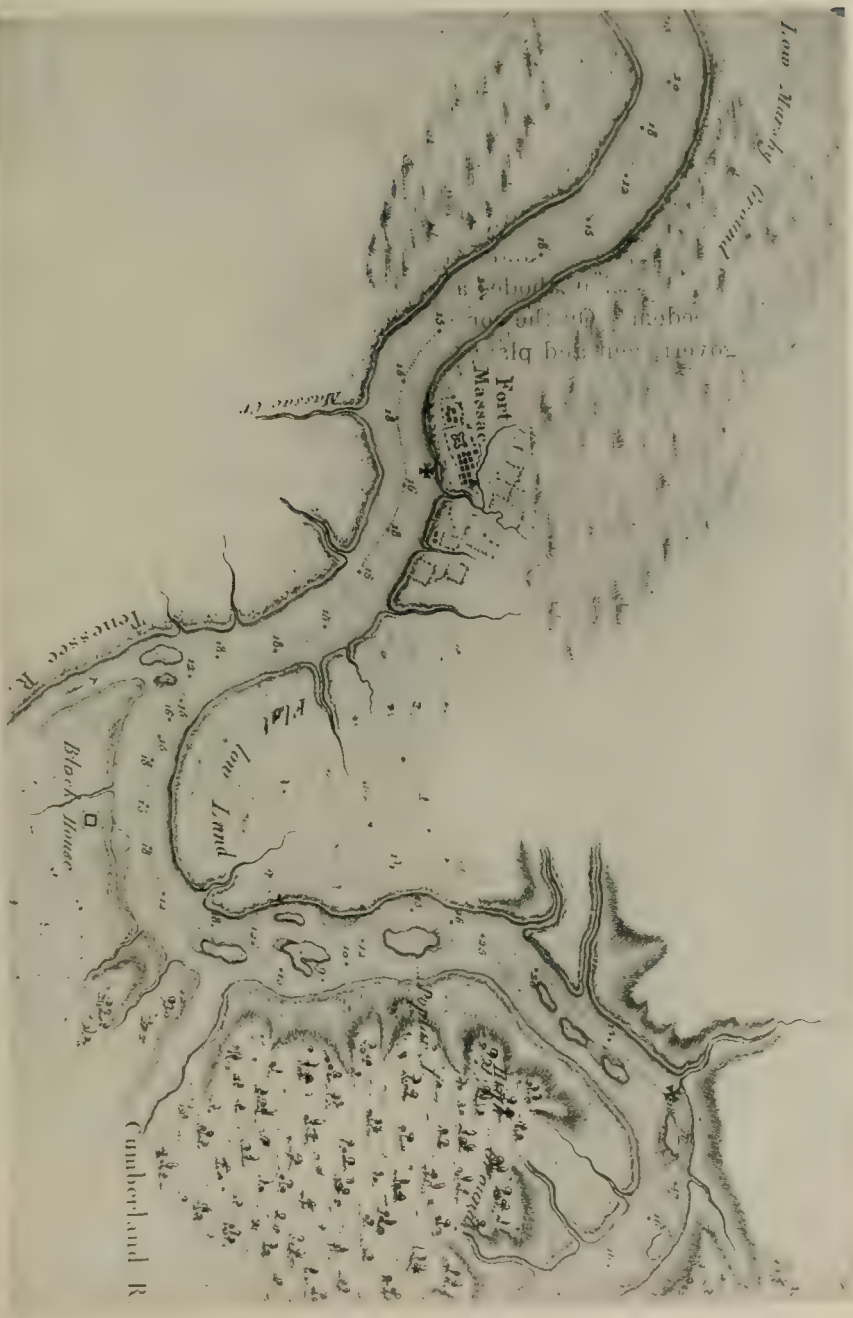
Franklin and Wilson. He resided at Fort Pitt, but his office required him to visit the Indian tribes of the West for the purpose of befriending them. The British agents, however, had already obtained their friendship, and Morgan's efforts proved needless.

In the meantime the revolutionary movement made great strides. Among its most enthusiastic promoters, and those who made the greatest sacrifices in its support, were the people on the Virginia frontier. Prominent among them was Col. George Rogers Clark, himself a Virginian. He was one of a number of men who had founded settlements in Kentucky, but had returned Oct. 1, 1777, to submit to Governor Patrick Henry of Virginia a plan for the occupation of Illinois. After repeated representations the governor finally approved the plan, and Col. Clark prepared to carry it out.

The utmost precaution was needed, for had the British learned of the enterprise, they would have immediately sent troops from Detroit to interrupt the Clark expedition and prevent further progress, and in all likelihood would have reinforced Fort Gage with a strong garrison. The expedition embarked at Pittsburg, following the Ohio River down to a point near its junction with the Mississippi, whence it proceeded overland to Kaskaskia, then a town of about 1,000 inhabitants.

In the evening of July 4, 1778, Clark and his men arrived at Fort Gage. No English were found there, only a handful of French doing garrison duty under the command of Rocheblave. The inhabitants of Kaskaskia were completely taken by surprise by the Americans, and no resistance was offered. A Pennsylvanian who chanced to be among the occupants of the fort secretly admitted the Americans at night. So complete was the surprise that the commandant himself was found by the entering enemy soundly asleep by his wife's side, and was rudely awakened only to be put in irons, as were also a number of his men, while the remainder of the population were forbidden to leave their houses, on penalty of being shot without mercy. To add to the alarm of the peaceful citizens, the Americans patrolling the streets marched back and forth, making night hideous by noise and shouting.

Rumor had portrayed the American soldiers as a band of rowdies. Clark, knowing this, determined to take advantage of the fact. His purpose was at first to strike terror into the inhabitants by stern, relentless severity, and afterwards gain their friendship and confidence by merciful and considerate treatment. He succeeded admirably. Before they had any inkling of his purpose, the inhabitants sent a delegation headed by their priest, Father Gibault, with a humble request that they be permitted to assemble once more at church to bid each other a last farewell before being scattered in various directions, as they feared. Their request was granted on the specific condition



Map Showing Fort Massac and Vicinity (1826)

that no one leave the town. After the meeting in the church Father Gibault and a committee again called on Clark, praying that, as they were about to be exiled from their homes, they might be permitted to take with them provisions and other necessities, and that mothers might not be separated from their children. Clark listened to their supplications with visible surprise and then exclaimed: "What! Do you take us for savages?"

It were needless to say that the reverend father and his companions were equally surprised and elated at this good-natured retort. Then this fierce colonel and his band of Americans had not come to drive them from their abodes and deprive them of their property and religious freedom! On the contrary, they had come merely to institute the new government and place Illinois under its protection, the settlers learning now for the first time and to their satisfaction that this government had been officially recognized by France. Cahokia and the other French villages in Illinois willingly recognized the authority of Clark, and Illinois had thereby all but nominally ceased to be a British dependency.

Clark's position was, however, rather precarious. Fort Pitt, the only point from which he could obtain reinforcements in an emergency, was situated five hundred miles away, with the French village of Vincennes and Fort Sackville, still held by the British, intervening between him and his military base of supplies. It was, therefore, of the utmost importance that this point be taken and that the British be prevented from sending reinforcements from Detroit. Father Gibault and one Captain Helm, together with a small number of men, offered to go to Vincennes and persuade the French to take up the American cause. Their mission succeeded, and Captain Helm was made commandant at Fort Sackville, but all too soon the fears of Col. Clark were realized. On Dec. 15th, Henry Hamilton, the English governor at Detroit, appeared outside of Vincennes with a force of thirty British soldiers, fifty French volunteers and four hundred Indian warriors. At the fort Captain Helm stood ready to fire what appears to have been the only cannon of the fort. When Hamilton and his soldiers had arrived within hearing distance, Helm shouted a thundering "Halt!" To this Hamilton replied with a demand on Helm to capitulate. This Helm agreed to do, on condition that he might depart without the customary military honors. Hamilton consented, and out marched the commandant and the entire garrison—one lone soldier.

This made Clark's position more perilous than ever, but he proved himself master of the situation. Having been informed in January, 1779, that Hamilton had somewhat reduced the garrison at Fort Sackville by sending a small force to blockade the Ohio River in order to cut off the retreat of the Americans, the fearless Col. Clark deter-



Site of Old Fort Massac, Showing Earthworks

mined to take the fort by surprise. Forming a company of French volunteers, which raised his fighting strength to 170 men, he marched on Fort Sackville, while a vessel under John Rogers' command, with a crew of 46 and a cargo of supplies, was dispatched down the Mississippi and up the Ohio and Wabash rivers to co-operate with the land forces. It was only with the greatest difficulty that Clark and his men succeeded in crossing the swollen Wabash. The vessel failing to arrive on time, he temporarily provisioned his forces at an Indian village and advanced bravely on Fort Sackville. They arrived Feb. 24th, and after a hard-fought battle of twenty-four hours, the fort surrendered. This was practically the only battle incident to the conquest of Illinois by the Americans.

Previous to this battle, the Americans had made preparations for a system of government for the territory. The legislative assembly of Virginia in October, 1778, resolved to institute a temporary government, and on this act Col. John Todd, second in command under Clark, based a proclamation, issued June 15, 1779, declaring the entire territory a county of Virginia, to be known as the county of Illinois. The same year a fort was erected on the east bank of the Mississippi, a short distance below the mouth of the Ohio, designed to protect the territory against the Spanish, who, besides other extensive possessions in the New World, since 1762 claimed the entire territory west of the Mississippi. Col. Todd fell in the battle of Blue Licks, Kentucky, August 18, 1782, and was succeeded by Timothy Montbrun, a Frenchman, as commandant of Illinois.

An old trading post named Fort Massac was established about 1700 by the French in southern Illinois, on the Ohio River. In 1758 they rebuilt it as a bulwark against the English during the French and Indian War. After having been ceded to the British in 1765, the fort was left unoccupied. This made it possible for Gen. Clark to float down the Ohio River unmolested. The fort was rebuilt in 1794 and was occupied by an American garrison until after the War of 1812, when it was abandoned. As late as 1843 it was decided to build an arsenal here, but this was instead established at Rock Island. Earthworks still mark the site of the fort, which is now a state park.

In 1782 the first American settlement in Illinois was founded in present Monroe county and significantly named New Design. The settlers were James Moore, Shadrach Bond, James Garrison, Robert Kidd and Larken Rutherford, the last two having served in Clark's little band of soldiers. In the summer of 1781 these men came with their families across the Alleghany Mountains, boarded a river vessel in Pittsburg, and were carried down the Ohio to the Mississippi, and up this river to the point selected for the settlement.

By the treaty of Paris, Sept. 3, 1783, England recognized the inde-

pendence of the United States. The territory thereby ceded to the new republic included Illinois, and after the ratification of the treaty of peace by the congress at Philadelphia, on Jan. 14, 1784, Illinois became an integral part of the United States and passed into a new and important epoch of development.

Illinois as a Territory and a State in the Union

On July 13, 1787, congress passed the Northwest Ordinance, by which all the region north of the Ohio River was organized as the Northwest Territory. October 5th of the same year Arthur St. Clair,



The Old Cahokia Court House (1795)

an officer of prominence in the Revolutionary War, was appointed governor. July 9th of the following year he arrived at Marietta, a newly founded settlement on the Muskingum River, designated as the seat of government. The first county in Ohio was organized under the name of Washington. In June, 1790, Hamilton county was organized, and a few weeks later the governor together with Winthrop Sargeant, the territorial secretary, made a journey to Kaskaskia and organized the settled portions of Illinois as a county, named St. Clair in honor of the governor. A court was established at Cahokia, and a justice of the peace appointed in each village. Five years later the

increase in population necessitated the organization of another county, which was named Randolph.

By an act of congress May 7, 1800, the Northwest Territory was divided in two, the one comprising Ohio, the other Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin and portions of Michigan and Minnesota. Simultaneously, William Henry Harrison was appointed governor and John Gibson secretary of the latter, called Indiana Territory. Vincennes was chosen



Ninian Edwards, Territorial Governor 1809-18. United States Senator 1818-24. Third Governor 1827-30.

capital and the new governor arrived Jan. 10, 1801. By order of the governor a territorial legislature was elected Jan. 3, 1805, and assembled at Vincennes. Shadrach Bond and William Biggs were elected representatives of St. Clair county and George Fisher representative of Randolph county. These three men, the first members of a legislative body in Illinois, met for their first session July 29th of the same year.

Previously, however, Indiana Territory had already been divided by an act of congress, passed Jan. 11, 1805, the lower Michigan peninsula forming a separate territory. Four years later, in February, 1809, a second division took place, making a new territory, named Illinois, out of the present states of Illinois and Wisconsin and the upper peninsula of Michigan. Kaskaskia was made its capital and Edwards, the first governor, entered upon his administration the following 11th of June. The census of 1810 showed a population of 12,282 in the



Old Kaskaskia house, in which the first Territorial Legislature is said to have met in 1812

territory. Three new counties, Madison, Gallatin and Johnson, were organized, and the territorial privileges were gradually enhanced. Thus it was given a seat in congress in 1812, Shadrach Bond being the first territorial delegate.

In January, 1818, Nathaniel Pope being the delegate, the territorial assembly petitioned congress for statehood. The petition was granted, and out of the aggregation of small and widely scattered settlements was formed a state of the Union with all the rights and privileges thereunto appertaining. The boundaries then fixed have remained intact. The following summer a constitutional convention was held at Kaskaskia, with attending delegates from all the counties then existing, viz., St. Clair, Randolph, Madison, Gallatin, Johnson, Edwards, White, Monroe, Pope, Jackson, Crawford, Bond, Union, Wash-

ington and Franklin. The constitution was adopted in August and the first state election took place in September, resulting in the unanimous election of Shadrach Bond, the only candidate, as governor, Pierre Menard as lieutenant governor, and Elias Kent Kane as secre-



Shadrach Bond, First Governor of Illinois

tary of state. These entered upon their duties the 6th of October following.

In 1820 Vandalia became the capital of the new state, and Kaskaskia from that time began to fall off in population and importance. Today only a small group of dilapidated buildings bear evidence of its former dignity.

A similar fate befell the still older community of Cahokia. Both places having for a time shared the functions of county seat in St. Clair county, Cahokia, after the organization of Randolph county, held

that distinction alone until 1814, when Belleville became the administrative center. This meant the passing of Cahokia. In 1890 the place had but 100 inhabitants, a considerable number of whom were descendants of the early French settlers at that point.

Vandalia became, as stated, the capital of the new commonwealth. The first capitol building was a plain two-story frame structure. The first story contained a single room, used as the assembly hall of the House of Representatives. The upper story was divided into two rooms, the one occupied by the Senate, the other by the Council of Revision. For the use of the secretary of state, the treasurer and the state auditor individual offices were rented in the vicinity of the capitol. The state archives at the time of removal from Kaskaskia to Vandalia comprised a single wagonload of documents. The legislature at its first session in Vandalia resolved that this city be the seat of government for twenty years, beginning Dec. 1, 1820.

This modest capitol building was destroyed by fire Dec. 9, 1823, whereupon a larger and more commodious brick edifice was erected at a cost of $15,000, the citizens of Vandalia contributing $3,000 towards this amount. Regardless of the resolution pertaining to the location of the capitol, agitation was begun the very same year in favor of selecting another capital city, owing to the fact that the northern part of the state had become so densely populated that Vandalia was no longer the central point. At the legislative election in August, 1834, the question was submitted to a popular vote, the city of Alton receiving the largest number of votes, with Springfield second. One of the reasons urged in favor of a removal was that the capitol building, though little over ten years old, did not meet the growing requirements. The enterprising mayor of the capital was opposed to the plan, and to stop all talk of removal on account of the inadequacy of the structure, in the summer of 1836 set about tearing down the old building without reference to the will of the legislature, and subsequently put up a new building, utilizing the old and adding new material at a cost of $16,000. This coup proved of no avail, however, for on Feb. 28, 1837, the legislature, disregarding the popular vote of 1834, resolved to make Springfield the capital city. The legislature assembled in the state house at Vandalia in December, 1838, for the last time, thereupon turning the rebuilt structure over to Fayette county for a courthouse and school building. Remodeled in 1858-9, this same structure today serves as the county courthouse.

For the capitol building in Springfield the legislature appropriated the sum of $50,000 and the city contributed an equivalent amount, whereupon the cornerstone was laid with appropriate ceremonies July 4, 1837. On the same day two years later the administration moved into the new statehouse, which, however, was not completed until

1853, when it had cost the state $260,000 or more than double the original estimate of $120,000. The building was considered a masterpiece of architecture as well as a structure of extravagant magnitude, yet fifteen years after its completion the enormous growth of the state had shrunk it into inadequacy. The legislature, therefore, on Feb. 25, 1867, resolved to sell it to the city of Springfield and the county of Sangamon at a price of $200,000 and to erect a new capitol, the



The State Capitol at Springfield

fifth in the history of the young state. The cost was fixed at a maximum of three million dollars. The cornerstone was laid Oct. 5, 1868, and twenty years were required to complete the building. It then represented an expenditure of about $4,500,000. During this long period the tax payers had repeatedly found fault with the extreme laxity in building operations as well as the unwarranted waste of the funds of the state. At all events, a capitol worthy of the state was erected. It is a worthy monument to the enterprise of a commonwealth that had so suddenly sprung from an isolated territory to become one of the most flourishing and influential states of the Union.

Among the early problems that pressed for a solution was the question of improved transportation facilities. The state had a number of navigable waterways, such as the Mississippi, the Ohio, the Wabash,

the Illinois and the Rock rivers, yet the vast stretches of prairie that intervened were traversed only with great difficulty. The old commercial route, leading from Lake Michigan along the Desplaines and Illinois rivers to the Mississippi, again came into extensive use as the white population increased, but carrying merchandise in canoes and on horseback was now considered too slow a mode of transportation. The idea of connecting the Mississippi with Lake Michigan by means of a canal suggested itself, and the first step in the realization of the plan was the organization of the Illinois and Michigan Canal Association in 1825. The following year a memorial was sent to congress by the legislature, requesting a grant of land by the government toward defraying the expense to be incurred by the project. In 1827 congress appropriated 224,322 acres of land for this purpose. In 1836, nine years later, the work of digging was begun, and twelve years later the canal was completed. This waterway remained for many years one of the principal transportation routes in the state.

During the construction of the canal, an epidemic of speculation raged throughout the state. Villages, towns and cities sprang up—on paper, and lots sold rapidly at exhorbitant prices. It proved the golden age of the real estate agents and promoters. Finally, in 1836, the fever spread to the legislature itself. The lawmakers devised a plan for the improvement of transportation facilities which, in point of extensiveness, challenges comparison. Bills were passed looking to the building of no less than 1,300 miles of railways crossing one another in every direction. Large amounts were set aside for the improvement of rivers and the building of canals. Counties not affected by these public enterprises were set at rest by means of an appropriation of $200,000 to be parcelled out among them. The legislature was in such a state of excitement that it gave orders for beginning work at both ends of the projected railroads simultaneously. The appropriations for the enormous enterprises amounted to a grand total of $12,000,000 and commissioners were sent out to negotiate loans to that amount. Considering that the railway was still in its infancy and was looked upon as the greatest of luxuries, that there were entire counties that could scarcely boast a single settler's cabin, and that the entire population of the state numbered less than 400,000, the legislature of the young state certainly expended a tremendous amount of energy in its efforts to develop the resources of the commonwealth. Meanwhile the legislature established new state banks, the earnings of which were to be used to defray part of the expense for the new lines of transportation.

This forced and abnormal development was soon followed by the inevitable crash. This came in the form of the great financial panic of 1837 which, while it affected the entire country, yet caused the most serious disturbance in this state. Business was practically stagnant and

all public enterprises had to be abandoned for the time being. The state banks discontinued cash payments, and the credit of the state was still further impaired during the next few years by a vigorous propaganda in favor of repudiating the public debt. So great was the financial embarrassment that state bonds offered at 14 cents on the dollar went begging in the money markets. Taxes and state revenues narrowly sufficed to defray current expenditures. After August, 1841, no further efforts were made to pay the interest on the state debt, and in the early part of the following year the state banks went out of business entirely. The state debt at this time amounted to $14,000,000, an enormous sum for a young state with a small population and with its natural resources still undeveloped.

In 1842 Illinois thus stood on the verge of bankruptcy. From such a catastrophe it was saved by Governor Thomas Ford, an energetic man, through whose endeavors a plan for the payment of the state indebtedness was formed and successfully carried out. This marked the beginning of a gradual improvement in the finances of the state.

Long before the Illinois and Michigan Canal was opened for traffic, the first steamboat had appeared on the Illinois River. This was in 1826, but several years elapsed before steamboats came into general use for river traffic. In the late thirties railway building was begun in Illinois as well as in the eastern states. The first railway in the state was the Northern Cross, with Jacksonville and Meredosia as its terminal points. This stretch of road, which proved the beginning of the great Wabash Railway system, was completed in 1839, the first locomotive having been imported the foregoing year. This railway was built at state expense.

In 1847 work was begun on the first railway out of Chicago, namely, the Galena and Chicago Union, which had been chartered eleven years before. This was the beginning of the great North-Western Railway system, which has contributed so largely to the material development of the state. The Chicago and Rock Island Railway was built in the early fifties, opening an important thoroughfare from Chicago to the Mississippi and the West.

In the financial crisis of 1837, Illinois was one of the states which suffered the greatest loss. Business was at a standstill and all public enterprises were indefinitely postponed. Business operations were resumed by slow degrees, however, and Illinois swung again into the path of progress. A new period of prosperity was inaugurated in 1850 by an act of Congress appropriating extensive land grants for the completion of the Illinois Central Railway. Immigrants came in great numbers, and towns and villages sprang up quickly along this railroad as it neared its completion in 1856. The public debt of the state had

increased enormously during the panic of 1837 and grew continually, reaching its highest point, $16,724,177, in 1853.

Another great stride in the development of the state was taken in 1848, when the telegraph system, established a few years prior, was extended into Illinois.

At this point we may fitly mention an event in the early history of Illinois which at the time was considered very noteworthy. In the spring of 1825, at the initiative of Governor Coles, the renowned



General Lafayette

General Lafayette of revolutionary fame paid a visit to Illinois. The governor had formed the general's acquaintance in Paris, and when the latter was about to visit the young republic which he had so materially helped to establish, the governor insisted that the journey ought to be extended to what was at that time known as the far West. Lafayette's visit to Illinois was hailed with the utmost enthusiasm by the Americans and not least by the descendants of the old French settlers. The expenses of the trip were paid out of the state treasury, amounting to $6,743, or one third of the tax revenue for the year.

While long and bloody conflicts were raging between the whites and the Indians in Ohio and Indiana, Illinois was spared the ravages of Indian warfare, owing largely to the French element, which had early gained the confidence of the redskins and long exercised a dom-

inating and wholesome influence over the Indians and the population in general. During the war of 1812 between England and the United States, the Indians as allies of the British committed certain outrages, which were, however, of small significance as against the cruelties perpetrated before and after in other western territories.

The most serious conflict of this kind in Illinois was the Black Hawk War of 1832. Black Hawk, who in 1788 had succeeded his father as chief of the Sac Indians, sedulously guarded the interests of his tribe against the inroads of the whites. Bitter rage filled the chieftain's heart, when certain other chiefs of the Sacs and Foxes in 1804 disposed of their lands, comprising a stretch of 700 miles along the Mississippi, to the whites for an indefinite amount payable in annual instalments of $1,000. He held that his fellow chiefs must have been drunk when signing such an agreement. Nevertheless, Black Hawk himself renewed the agreement in 1816. Having thus become homeless on their former domains east of the Mississippi, the tribesmen were compelled to withdraw in great numbers to the government reservation opened to them in 1823 in Iowa, near the present site of Des Moines. Black Hawk and a number of others, however, remained on their native soil. In 1831 the last tract occupied by the Indians was sold to white settlers. When these began to plow up the little patches already planted by the Indians, the anger of the savage chief and his followers knew no bounds and they swore bloody vengeance. To prevent an outbreak, the state militia was called out, and Black Hawk and his warriors were forced to retreat beyond the Mississippi under promise not to return to Illinois without permission. He soon broke his promise and invaded the state in the spring of 1832, at the head of a band of fifty warriors, but was met and repulsed by the militia. The band was broken up into small groups that attacked the white settlers wherever found, killing, scalping and devastating. General Scott was sent with a small force to put a stop to the savagery, but his operations were hampered by an outbreak of cholera among the soldiers. The Indians were at last driven up to the Wisconsin River where General Dodge dealt them a telling blow on July 21st and General Atkinson, on August 2nd, totally



BLACK HAWK

defeated them. Chief Black Hawk was taken prisoner, and a treaty was made by which the remainder of the lands claimed by his tribe were sold and the remaining tribesmen, about 3,000 in number, were transferred to the aforesaid reservation in Iowa. The chief himself, two of his sons and seven warriors who were held as hostages by the government for some time, were taken through a number of the larger cities in the East and finally imprisoned at Fort Monroe. They were liberated June 5, 1833, and permitted to rejoin their tribe. This famous chief of a dwindling tribe died at the reservation on the Des Moines River on Oct. 3, 1838, at the ripe age of seventy.

The Mormons at Nauvoo

Peace had scarcely been restored, when a new disturbance aroused the inhabitants. This time the Mormons were the disturbing element. In the state of New York Joseph Smith had proclaimed the alleged revelation of the hidden tablets of gold, by the aid of which he had written a book embodying a new religion. In April, 1830, he had organized a small band of followers who were called Mormons after that weird fabric of truth and falsehood, the Book of Mormons. Joseph Smith and his faithful settled in Kirtland, Ohio, where the sect grew so rapidly that Smith and his assistant, Sidney Rigdon, soon were obliged to select a larger tract farther west for the accommodation of the colony. A suitable location was found at Independence, Jackson county, Missouri, and here they determined to found a New Jerusalem and build their temple. Smith and Rigdon returned to Kirtland and set about raising the funds needed for the removal. They decided to establish a bank as the easiest means to that end, but omitted, as useless, the formality of obtaining banking privileges from the government. While issuing bank notes of highly questionable value, they provided for the numerical growth of the sect by sending out missionaries to various parts of the country. In January, 1838, the bank was forced to close, while Smith and Rigdon escaped being imprisoned as swindlers by leaving the city by night and making their way toward Missouri with numerous creditors on their tracks.

In the meantime, large numbers of Mormons assembled there, the influx being marked by sharp friction with the inhabitants, who, with or without cause, charged the strangers with robbery, incendiarism and murder. After numerous conflicts with enraged mobs, they were driven from one county to another and settled at last in the town of Far West, in Caldwell county, where Smith and Rigdon rejoined them. The conflicts with the Missourians continued, while an internal feud threatened disintegration among the Mormons themselves. This strife was quickly settled, whereupon the colony again presented a united

front to their neighbors. Toward the close of 1838 the conflict had assumed the proportions of a rebellion. The Mormons armed themselves and assembled in large numbers in fortified villages, openly challenging the authorities. Finally the governor was forced to call out the militia, and Smith and Rigdon were arrested, charged with fomenting a revolt.

Realizing the fruitlessness of armed opposition to the people of the entire state, the Mormons now submitted to the authorities and agreed to leave the state. To a number of 15,000 they crossed over into Illinois in 1839, receiving a friendly welcome in spite of reports of the trouble they had caused in the neighboring state. Smith meanwhile fled from prison and here reunited with his flock and his comrade Rigdon, who had been released through habeas corpus proceedings. On a tract of land in Hancock county, placed at their disposal on speculation by one Doctor Isaac Galland, the Mormons began to build the town of Nauvoo. By sharp transactions in real estate Smith amassed a fortune in a few years.

On the strength of an alleged new revelation, Joseph Smith issued a decree to his followers in various parts of the world, commanding them to assemble in Nauvoo, whereby the population of the town increased by thousands in a short time. A charter was issued by the legislature, entitling the city to certain exceptional privileges, which placed Smith and Rigdon, together with other leaders, in a position to assume almost unlimited power over the community. Among other privileges was that of organizing a military force. This resulted in the forming of the Nauvoo Legion, comprising nearly all ablebodied men in the town. Smith assumed the chief command with the title of Lieutenant General. Besides this, he was mayor of the city and president of the Mormon denomination. Having thus united in his own person the civil, the military, and the ecclesiastical power, he was not slow to exercise the prerogatives voted him by his own followers and a short-sighted state legislature. He had purposely so worded the Nauvoo city charter as to deprive the state authorities of almost every vestige of jurisdiction within its limits. It was a proud moment for Joseph Smith, when on April 6, 1841, at the head of the Nauvoo Legion and surrounded by a glittering military staff, he performed the pompous ceremony of laying the cornerstone of the temple, designed to be the civil and religious shrine of the dreamed-of Mormon empire.

Up to this time the Mormons had sustained fairly peaceful relations with the people of the state, but when Smith in 1843 announced a new revelation instituting polygamy, the situation was at once changed. The leaders publicly disclaimed and denounced the doctrine but to no avail, for it was generally known that Smith himself had lived in plural marriage since 1838. Certain men, whose wives Smith had approached seeking to induce them to enter into illegal relations with him, estab-

lished a newspaper, the "Expositor," which mercilessly exposed the immoral life of the prophet. The result was that on May 6, 1844, a number of Smith's faithful attempted to destroy the office and property of the paper. The perpetrators were ordered arrested but refused to follow the officer of the law who read the warrant, fortifying themselves by the charter of special privileges, and the officer was driven



The Mormon Temple at Nauvoo

out of town by force. The county authorities called for military aid in preserving law and order; the Mormons also took up arms and bloodshed seemed imminent. This was prevented by the governor, who persuaded Smith and his brother Hyrum to submit to a trial. They were taken to the prison in Carthage where guards were posted for their protection. In the evening of June 27th the prison was attacked

by a mob; the guards were overpowered, shots were fired at the prisoners through doors and windows, and Hyrum Smith fell dead on the spot. The prophet returned the fire, defending his own life with a revolver until his ammunition was spent, then made a dash for safety through a window, but was hit by a bullet and fell dead in his tracks. This ended the career of Joseph Smith, the religious adventurer.

Profiting by past experience, the legislature annulled the charter of the city of Nauvoo the following year, and the Mormons were forced to seek new quarters. A considerable number broke camp in February, 1846, and gathered in Council Bluffs, whence they travelled afoot across the plains and mountains to Utah. The remaining Mormons had a second conflict with their neighbors. In September, 1846, the city was fired into for three consecutive days and the inhabitants were finally driven out at the point of the bayonet. In the year following there was another exodus to Utah, but not until May, 1848, did the main body of the Mormons break up from Nauvoo and follow in the path of the advance guards. In the fall of the same year their destination was reached. In Utah the Mormons soon founded the city of Salt Lake and various other important communities. Judging from the continued history of the Mormons, particularly that of the fifties, the state of Illinois is to be felicitated upon its fortunate riddance, after but a few years, of this lawless and obstinate element.

The Icarian Community

When the Mormons evacuated Nauvoo in 1846, the place was immediately occupied by a party of French settlers, known as Icarians, who formed a community, the story of which has a peculiar interest.

Etienne Cabet, born at Dijon, France, the son of a cooper, became in the time of Louis Philippe one of the leading French jurists and ultimately attorney-general during the Second Republic. He was a novelist of some note, his best known works being entitled, respectively, "Voyage to Icaria" and "The True Christianity." Having lived through the horrors of the revolution, Cabet founded the Icarian Community, based on ideas advanced by Victor Hugo in a novel called "Icaria." A number of his adherents preceded him to America, landed at New Orleans and planted a colony in Texas, on the Red River, opposite Shreveport, La. Finding the climate unfavorable, they returned to New Orleans, where they were joined by Cabet, who appointed a committee of three to sail up the Mississippi to select a site for final settlement. This committee visited Nauvoo and agreed to purchase about twelve acres of the Mormons' property, on which the party subsequently located.

On leaving, the Mormons tried to burn their temple, a handsome structure built largely of massive stone, with the upper portion and steeple of frame. The fire destroyed only the upper parts, which the Icarians set about reconstructing. A terrific storm undid their work and also tore down part of the masonry, whereupon they used what was left of the temple in erecting other buildings. The principal ones were a large structure, the lower part of which contained one vast hall, which served the double purpose of dining room and auditorium, the upper story containing living rooms. The hall accommodated 1,200 diners, who were all served almost at the same time. The next largest building in Icaria was a schoolhouse.

The administration consisted of president, secretary, treasurer and seven directors, styled ministers, all elected yearly by the members of the community, females of eighteen and males of twenty-one being entitled to vote. They also elected a General Assembly, a legislative body which held session every Saturday evening. Père Cabet, the founder of the community, was its president for many successive terms. Admission into the community was conditioned by the payment of 300 francs. The applicant was put on probation for three months, then voted on and, failing of election, his money was returned. If elected, the applicant was required to turn over all his property to the community. The colony was strictly communistic in every detail.

There was a general director of work, with special foremen appointed monthly for each line of employment, and each man or woman could select the work desired, with the privilege of changing occupation at times to relieve the monotony. The children were put in school at seven and kept there until adjudged competent. In the highest classes the sciences, astronomy, geometry, etc., were taught to both sexes. The instruction was liberal in the extreme. So good was the school considered that outsiders went there to receive their education. In religion they were also liberal, most of them being free thinkers; but church affiliation was no bar to membership. Sundays were generally set aside for recreation. After dinner the great hall was cleared and given over to discussion or to music, an excellent orchestra of fifty pieces being maintained. On Sunday evenings in winter the colonists were usually regaled with some play, there being several actors of talent and a stage at one end of the hall. After the show, adults and children indulged in dancing. There were hospitals for the sick, an athletic field for public sports and playgrounds for the children. Civil cases and cases of misdemeanor were tried by the assembly. Criminal cases, if any, were turned over to the municipal authorities, for the colonists were loyal subjects of the United States. They had a periodical, the "Icarian," issued more for proselyting purposes than for the news it contained. Copies circulated in France from time

to time won new members, particularly from the communistic party. When Napoleon III. ordered the arrest of the communists, many fled to America and a number joined the Icarians at Nauvoo.

The Icarians were largely skilled workmen, such as mechanics, tailors and shoemakers. To dispose of the overproduction by the latter two crafts, a store was opened in St. Louis for the sale of clothing and shoes. Other surplus products were sold in Keokuk, Ia. The colony had flour mills, sawmills, a cooper shop, a wagon factory and a distillery. Much of their textile goods was manufactured at home.

All told, there were about 1,800 Icarians during their sojourn in Nauvoo, but never more than 1,200 at one time. Most of the members were French, with a sprinkling of other nationalities. Early in the fifties, forty-eight of the colonists were sent to pre-empt government lands near Council Bluffs, Ia., and acquired some 8,000 acres, the community apparently foreseeing the day when its present quarters might become too cramped. In the course of time the serpent of disruption entered the Icarian Eden. Though most economically managed, the maintenance being but 7½ cents daily, per capita, the colony was going slowly but surely to the wall. To reduce the constantly growing indebtedness, the more practical members urged that the plan of keeping skilled workmen on a plane with common laborers should be abolished and the former set to work in manufacturing goods on a larger scale for the general market, enabling the colony to liquidate the debt. This clashed with the theory of "Father Cabet," who held that commerce and intercourse with the outside world would spoil community life. He also claimed the position of supreme dictator for life. When at the next election he was defeated for president, he withdrew in disappointment, going to Cheltenham, near St. Louis, with his minority of about 200 colonists. He did not long survive the defeat; his adherents disbanded or joined the settlement in Iowa; the community property was sold to pay the debts. Today the only trace left of the Icarian community is a group of some forty members, engaged in fruit farming in California.

Having in the foregoing pages followed the material development of Illinois through its successive stages, we turn now to a brief review of its constitutional history. The successive territorial governments were similarly organized, consisting of governor, secretary and judge, appointed by the president. This same organization was retained when in 1809 Illinois was separated from Indiana and became a distinct territory. The governor was clothed with almost unlimited power in the matter of appointments, the only official not appointed by him being the secretary. The legislative power lay in the hands of the governor and three judges appointed by the president. This tribunal

met June 16, 1809, and framed a code, embodying the principal laws in force up to that time.

This administrative system obtained until 1812, when congress entitled the territory of Illinois to local self-government, implying the right of the people to elect their own county and town officials, members of the legislature, and the territorial representative in congress. The franchise was granted every citizen who paid taxes to the territory. The legislature comprised two houses, called the Legislative Council and the House of Representatives, and made up of five and seven members respectively. The governor had absolute veto power, enabling him to set at naught every act of the legislature at his own discretion. The first members elected to the assembly met in Kaskaskia Nov. 25, 1812, and ratified, during their first session, all the laws passed to date by the Indiana legislature and the governor and judges of Illinois.

In the year 1818, as we have seen, Illinois was raised to the dignity of statehood. The state constitution then adopted was a brief document, patterned after the constitutions of Kentucky, Ohio, New York and Indiana. A proper distinction was drawn between the legislative, the executive and the judicial authorities, the maximum of power being lodged in the first-named branch of government, while to the second was allotted a comparatively small share. The governor, the lieutenant governor, the sheriffs, the coroners, the county commissioners and, as a matter of course, the members of the legislature and the state representatives in congress, were elected by the people. The secretary of state was appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the legislature. Almost all other officials were directly or indirectly chosen by the legislature, which designated them either for appointment by the governor or election by the citizens of the various counties. The governor's veto was replaced by a Council of Revision, consisting of the governor and the members of the state supreme court. This tribunal was empowered to examine all acts of the legislature and resubmit all disapproved legislation for further action. An absolute majority was required for the passage of any bill or act over the veto of the Council of Revision.

The ever growing demand for local self-government soon forced the legislature to surrender part of its appointive power to the people. Thus the offices of justice of the peace and of constable were filled by election after Dec. 12, 1826, and that of probate justice of the peace in a similar manner after March 4, 1847.

The right to vote was the prerogative of every white male citizen having attained to the age of twenty-one years and resided six months in the state. General elections were held every four years. All voting

was done viva voce. It is a remarkable fact that this, the first constitution of the state, was never submitted to the people for ratification.

As the commonwealth grew and developed apace and new exigencies arose, the need of a new constitution became imperative. This was spoken of as early as 1824 and again in 1842, but not until April, 1847, were delegates to a constitutional convention chosen. The convention met in June of that year and completed its work in August. The new constitution was submitted to a vote at the next election, March 6, 1848, was then ratified, and went into effect on the first day of April the same year. The idea of local self-government which had steadily gained ground throughout the country since 1818, was asserted in the new constitution through a curtailment of the extensive appointive power of the legislature. This power was transferred to the people, who were given the right to fill the great majority of offices at the general elections, while the right of local self-government was made almost absolute. The ballot was given to all white males who had attained their majority and had resided one year in the state. To the governor was given the right of veto, formerly exercised by the Council of Revision. Even in other respects the prerogatives of the legislature were curtailed. The financial experiences of the last decade which had cost the state dearly, caused the insertion of a clause strictly forbidding the legislature to use the credit of the state to further building operations or for other purposes. Henceforth, such public works devolved upon the various communities singly or in common. Every county was granted the right to subdivide itself into townships, this in deference to the wishes of the people of the northern part of the state, who had come largely from New York and the New England states.

During the rapid industrial development from 1850 to 1860 new problems arose, which could not be solved under the constitution of 1848. The increasing number and power of the corporations was generally considered a serious public menace, in the absence of restrictive legislation on that point. It was feared that these would abuse their power in an effort to procure special legislation in their behalf, hence the desire to place them under state control. A proposed constitution, formulated by the constitutional convention of 1862, was deemed inadequate and failed of ratification at the subsequent election; but the need of a new constitution remained and caused the calling of a fourth constitutional convention in 1869. This convention labored with better success than its predecessor, and on May 13, 1870, submitted the draft of a new constitution, which was accepted at an election held on the second day of July following, and went into effect August 8th of that year. It augmented the veto power of the governor, prohibited special legislation in favor of corporations, limited the

bonded debt of state, county and municipality to amounts not to overburden the taxpayers, enlarged the influence of the people on legislation, while limiting in a measure the authority of the legislature, added to the responsibility of the judicial executives, and placed restrictions upon the operations of railroads and other business corporations.

The Slavery Question

A remarkable chapter in the history of Illinois is that dealing with slavery and the attitude of its people toward that question from time to time.

To the French the credit is due for the discovery and exploration of Illinois and the founding of its earliest colonies; theirs is the blame for the introduction of slavery into its territory. Shortly after the establishment of the first French settlements, certain Frenchmen, acting on the supposition that all kinds of valuable ores were to be found here, organized two companies with a view to exploiting the ore fields. The second established headquarters in the St. Phillips settlement, with a Frenchman by the name of Philip Francis Renault as its representative.

In 1720 Renault purchased 500 negroes in San Domingo and brought them here to work in the prospective mines. No ore beds could be found, however, and part of the slaves were put to work in the lead mines discovered near the present city of Galena, as early as the year 1700, also near the site of Dubuque, Iowa, and in similar mines in present Missouri, while the remainder were sold to French settlers in Illinois. This event marked the beginning of the slave trade in the state. In the latter part of the eighteenth century, when the English and the Americans in turn invaded Illinois, protection of life, liberty and property was guaranteed to the French settlers and their rights and privileges were safeguarded. The slaves were naturally classed as property. In the Northwest Ordinance of 1787, by which all the tract northwest of the Ohio River was made one territory, slavery was expressly forbidden within its borders, yet the inhabitants, particularly the French and Canadian settlers, by exemption were permitted to follow their established customs. This stipulation was commonly interpreted to mean that, while the statutes prohibited traffic in slaves and the extension of slavery in the territory, they implied that the slaves already in the territory, and their descendants, were to remain in bondage forever. However, protests were raised, questioning the validity of this stipulation in the ordinance on the ground that congress, in passing it, had exceeded its authority. Others maintained that all children born to slaves after 1787 were free. Still

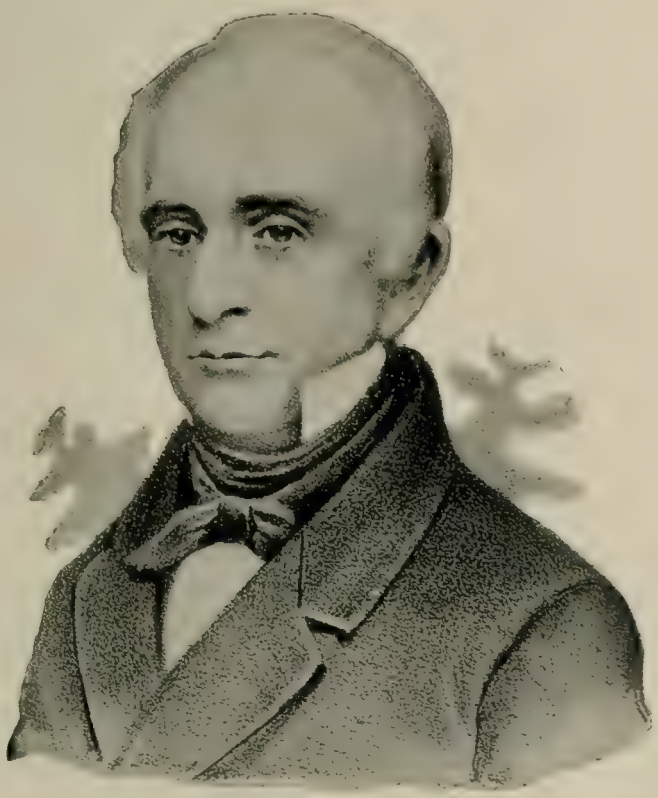
another group insisted that no material prosperity would be possible without slavery. In the course of time a considerable number of inhabitants inclined to this view. After the division of the Northwest Territory in 1800, the slave question grew more serious than ever, the adherents of slavery obtaining strong support in William Henry Harrison, governor of Indiana Territory. A convention to discuss the question was called by him at Vincennes in 1804. Then and there a petition to congress was drawn up, demanding that the section in the ordinance of 1787 prohibiting slavery in the Northwest Territory be rescinded or modified. The congressional committee to which this petition was first referred, reported adversely, but a second committee recommended that the slavery clause be suspended for a period of ten years. Congress, however, took no action in the matter. In 1807 a counterpetition with a great number of signatures was sent to congress, where it met the same fate. In the meantime the advocates of slavery kept up a vigorous agitation and succeeded in having a territorial law passed which, under certain limitations, authorized the bringing in and enslavement of negroes and mulattoes over fifteen years of age. According to the same law, slaves under fifteen years of age could be procured and held in bondage, males to the age of 35 and females to the age of 30 years. Descendants of registered slaves were to serve the owner of the mother up to the age of 30 and 28 years, respectively, according to sex. As a result of this law, which was ratified in 1812, the number of slaves increased rapidly in the territory.

The first state constitution of Illinois, adopted in 1818, prohibited all form of slave traffic in the future, causing great dissatisfaction among the slaveholders. An agitation was set on foot in 1822 to force a change in the statutes, making Illinois a slave state. Their first effort was directed toward securing a new constitutional convention. For a year and a half a bitter fight was waged between the so-called Conventionists and their opponents. At a general election August 2, 1824, the Conventionists were defeated by a heavy majority, this being the final settlement of the slavery question in Illinois.

The negroes and mulattoes already in servitude remained slaves during the term stipulated. The census of 1820 thus showed 917 slaves in the state. Ten years later their number had been reduced to 747 and in 1840, when they last figured in the census report, their number was 331. Before 1850 the last trace of slavery had been wiped out in the state.

Edward Coles, who had just become the second governor of Illinois, had been private secretary to President Madison and was an intimate friend of Thomas Jefferson and Patrick Henry. He had inherited a plantation and a number of slaves in Virginia. Disliking the institution of slavery, he had removed in 1820 with his slaves to Illinois and set

them free, giving to each head of a family 160 acres of land. In his inaugural address in 1822 he recommended that the legislature revise the laws so as to prevent the kidnaping of free negroes, a crime then



Edward Coles, Second Governor of Illinois

committed with impunity. He devoted his four years' salary, amounting to $4,000, to the anti-slavery cause. Coles was a forerunner of Lincoln and his influence was paramount at a critical period in the preservation of Illinois as a free-soil state.

The champions of slavery continued their efforts, in spite of their defeat in 1824, fighting the abolitionists at every point and with all the means at their command. Two eminent leaders in the anti-slavery movement were Elijah Parish Lovejoy, a Presbyterian minister, and his brother Owen Lovejoy, a clergyman of the Congregational Church. In the early '30s Elijah Lovejoy published from St. Louis a religious weekly, the "Observer," condemning the slave traffic in unsparing



The Elijah P. Lovejoy Monument at Alton

terms. His life being threatened by enraged slaveholders, he removed to Alton, Ill., in July, 1836, continuing the publication from that point. He waged a fearless campaign for the noble cause which he had espoused, and a year later he and a number of sympathizers organized a secret league for the abolition of slavery. But not even on Illinois soil was he permitted to carry on his work unmolested. In the course



Owen Lovejoy

of one year his printing shop was attacked three different times by violent mobs, which destroyed his presses and other property. After he had purchased his fourth press, a number of his friends offered to protect it from the assaults of the rabble. In the evening of Nov. 7, 1837, a mob surrounded the building where it was kept and, to make short shrift with it, one of their number climbed to the roof for the purpose of setting the building on fire. Stepping outside, together with two of his friends, to see what was going on, Lovejoy was shot from ambush and died in a few moments. His fellow abolitionists considered him a martyr to the cause, and his death formed the theme of many a bitter invective against the slave power. His example became an inspiration to every friend of the downtrodden serfs and his violent

death aided materially in strengthening the anti-slavery sentiment at the North.

Owen Lovejoy lived to take a distinguished part in the great final struggle for abolition and the preservation of the Union. He was elected to congress in 1856, and Lincoln had no more faithful and loyal supporter of his policy in congress than was Owen Lovejoy. It was the consciousness of this fact, which, after the anti-slavery champion's death in 1864, called forth from Lincoln the warmest tribute to his memory.

Abraham Lincoln, the Greatest Illinoisan

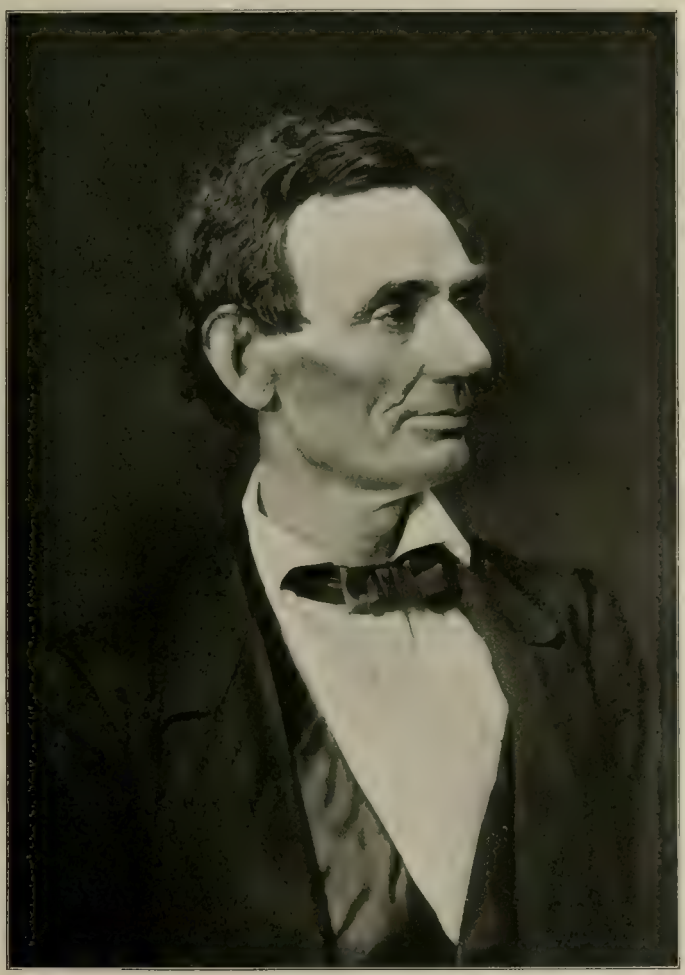
At this juncture, there passed from a humble pioneer home out in public life a man foreordained by Providence to become in due time the deliverer of the slaves, the great emancipator, Abraham Lincoln. A review of the history of Illinois would be incomplete and lacking in value without the name and achievements of him, the noblest of its citizens.

Abraham Lincoln was born in Kentucky and came as a young man of 21 to this state, to the progress of which he gave the best efforts of his mature manhood. Scarcely two years had passed from the day he began splitting rails for the enclosure of the homestead the family selected in Menard county, when, after serving both as a private and an officer in the Black Hawk War, he appeared as a candidate for the state legislature. He was defeated, but two years later he reached the goal of his first political ambitions, having in the meantime successfully completed a course in law and also worked as a surveyor, showing skill and aptness for the vocation. In the legislature he was made a member of the committee on appropriations and accounts. After re-election in 1836 he was appointed on the committee on finances; and, being re-elected again in 1838 and 1840, he was twice the Whig candidate for the speakership. Recognizing the wants of the state, he advocated a uniform system of public improvements. In March, 1837, the Democratic majority in the legislature passed several resolutions favorable to the slave power; against these Lincoln went on record by registering a forcible protest. According to the best information at hand, this was Lincoln's first public pronouncement on the slavery question.

The same year Lincoln was admitted to the bar, and henceforth we often find him in court, defending those charged with assisting runaway slaves from the South. Owing to the steady growth of his law practice, he was obliged to decline renomination for the legislature in 1842. As a candidate for presidential elector in 1840 and 1844, he electioneered with great energy for the Whig candidate for president. His debates with Stephen A. Douglas on the burning question of the

times, held before great audiences in a later campaign, are a matter of history. Lincoln was a warm admirer of Henry Clay, whose defeat caused him deep regret.

Having up to that time devoted himself to Illinois politics, Lincoln in 1846 was elected to congress and became a national figure. His Dem-



Abraham Lincoln

ocratic opponent in this campaign was Peter Cartwright, the famous Methodist clergyman. In congress Lincoln strenuously opposed the policy of President Polk, and pronounced the war with Mexico a national infamy. He voted for the anti-slavery petitions laid before congress, urged an investigation as to the constitutionality of slavery in the District of Columbia, and in 1849 moved its abolition. He might

have had the renomination, but declined. In the Whig national convention in 1848 he furthered Taylor's nomination to the presidency and made a campaigning tour in New England during the subsequent campaign. In 1849 he stood for election to the senate, but was defeated by General Shields. President Fillmore offered him the governorship of Oregon Territory, which was declined.

The repudiation of the Missouri Compromise caused Lincoln again to enter the political arena, and in a short time he became the recognized leader of the Republican party, then in process of formation. At the national convention of that party in 1856 he was by the delegation from his state put in nomination for the vice presidency, but failed to get the requisite number of votes to confirm the nomination. In June, 1858, the Republican convention held at Springfield nominated Lincoln for United States Senator to succeed his old antagonist, Stephen A. Douglas, who sought reelection. During the campaign the two held seven public debates, principally on the leading issue whether Kansas should be admitted to the Union free or slave. It was generally admitted that Lincoln was the superior of his astute political opponent in argument. He received a majority of 4,000 votes over him in the following election, but the legislative districts were so gerrymandered, that the Democrats succeeded in getting a majority of eight on a joint vote in the legislature, and Douglas was seated.

Lincoln, however, continued his crusade against the slave power in forceful speeches, delivered in various parts of the country, including Kansas and the New England states. Not only his own opinion, but the prevailing sentiment of the Republican party was thus voiced.

The strain between the North and the South, owing to the slave question, was ever on the increase. Slavery was, or was claimed to be, an essential factor in the economy of the South, and the slave owners looked upon the anti-slavery movement as a danger to be warded off at all hazards. Fear of economic collapse was the ultimate cause of the desperate tenacity with which they held fast to the slave system and fought the abolitionists. The theory of state sovereignty was urged in behalf of the slave states, and the secessionist movement began in earnest, aiming toward the establishment of a new confederacy of states—all for the purpose of preserving to the South this institution on the plea that it was indispensable.

The slavery question was brought to an issue when the Republican party at its national convention in Chicago in May, 1860, adopted a platform emphatically declaring that neither congress, nor the state legislatures, nor any individuals were empowered to legalize slavery in any part of the United States, and at the same time nominated Lincoln for the presidency. When he was elected in November of that year,



Wigwam in which Lincoln was nominated May 18, 1860

thereby defeating his intrepid opponent Douglas, who was one of the three presidential candidates of the disintegrated Democratic party, the slaveholders took this as a sure sign of the impending destruction of their cherished system of economy, although it was well known that Lincoln was by no means disposed to precipitate the change.

In order to prevent the abolition of slavery, the slave states determined to withdraw from the Union and set up a government of their own. South Carolina, whence originated the principle of state sovereignty, led the way by calling a convention, which on the 20th of

December, the same year, voted in favor of secession. Within six weeks the states of Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana and Texas took similar action. These states subsequently united under the name of the Confederate States of America, and, on the 8th day of February, 1861, elected Jefferson Davis president. Lincoln thus entered upon his duties as president in March, 1861, under the most trying circumstances. He realized from the first that a peaceful settlement af the contest was impossible; that the Union could be saved only by an appeal to arms. On March 13th two commissioners of the Confederacy appeared at Washington offering to treat with the government regarding the questions arising out of the secession. The govern-



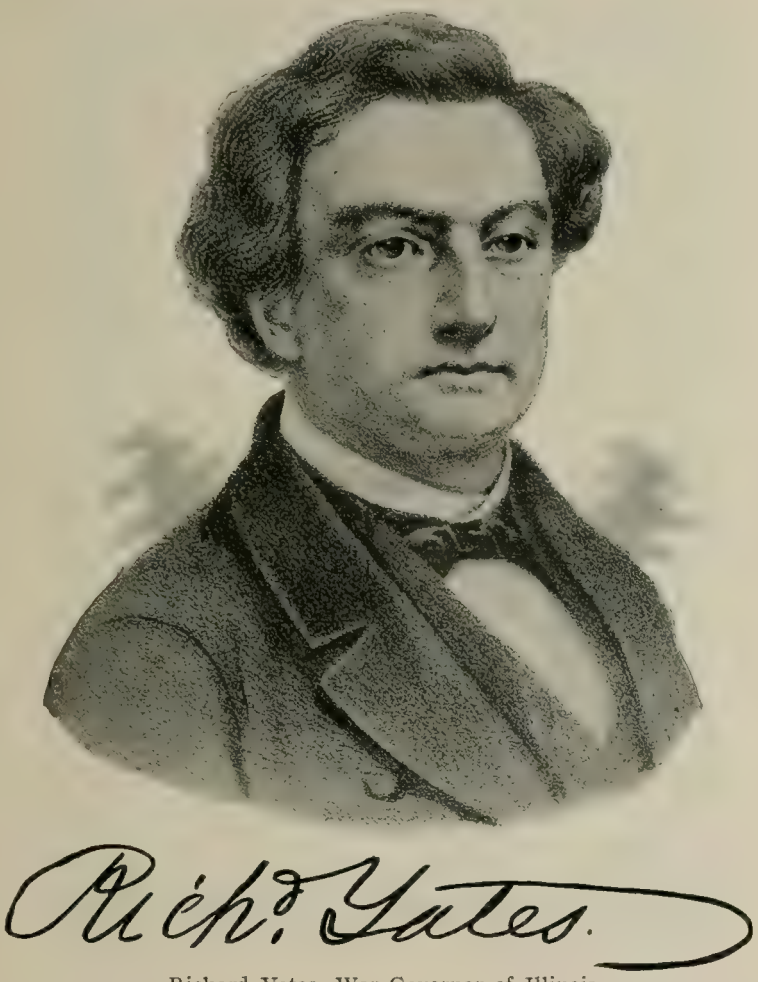
The Lincoln Family

ment, however, refused to recognize them on the ground that the secession was illegal and without the consent of the people of the United States. This reply was made public April 8th, and on the 12th the rebels fired on Fort Sumter. This was the opening gun of the Civil War.

The account of that great conflict does not enter into the plan of this work. Attention may, however, be called to the enormous task that was thereby thrown upon the shoulders of President Lincoln, as well as to the tireless perseverance, the lofty statesmanship and the glowing patriotism he evinced throughout; how he, with the great goal of human freedom ever before him, issued, on Sept. 22, 1862, his Emancipation Proclamation, by which slavery was abolished in the United States; how he was again elected, with an overwhelming majority, in 1864; how he, with the faithful aid and support of the people, brought the war to a close, with honor to the North, benevolence to the

entire country, and the restoration of the Union, one and inseparable; and, finally, how he, after his life had often been placed in jeopardy by persons seeking revenge for the alleged losses sustained by his great work of emancipation, died by the hand of an assassin.

The people of Illinois will ever point with pride to the fact that this man, the peer of Washington in our history, was one of their



Richard Yates, War Governor of Illinois

number. And as long as the human heart cherishes the deeds of the great, they will visit, with a reverence akin to worship, the mausoleum at Springfield, where Abraham Lincoln lies entombed.

Among the earnest supporters of the national administration in its measures for the suppression of the rebellion was Richard Yates, governor of Illinois, 1861-4, who was later styled "the Illinois War

Governor." He served as United States senator 1865-71, and died in 1873.

One of the military heroes produced by Illinois was John A. Logan, a member of congress at the outbreak of hostilities. Leaving his seat, he fought in the ranks at Bull Run. Commissioned colonel of the 31st

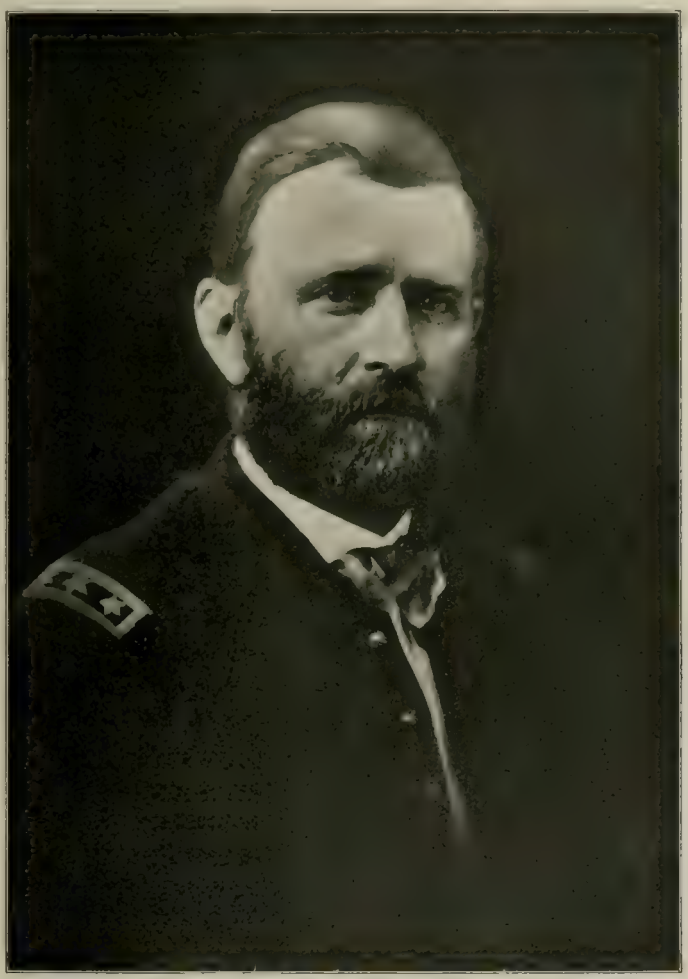


John A. Logan

Regiment Illinois Infantry by Governor Yates, he went to the front and was rapidly promoted to major-general. He was in 1884 an unsuccessful candidate for the vice-presidency with James G. Blaine. Logan died in 1886 as a United States senator.

The greatest military figure brought out by the Civil War was furnished by Illinois in the person of Ulysses S. Grant, who was in

1861 a tanner in Galena. After serving as clerk and drill-master he was commissioned colonel of the 21st Illinois Volunteers. As brigadier-general he captured Forts Donelson and Henry in 1862. He soon had charge of all western operations and his capture of Vicksburg after a siege was the chief Union victory of 1863. He became major-general



Ulysses S. Grant

and then lieutenant-general in 1864, taking command of all the Northern armies. Grant personally directed the campaign against Richmond which resulted in the surrender of Lee at Appomattox on April 8, 1865, and the downfall of the Confederacy. The rank of general was created for him in 1866, after which the nation chose him president in 1868 and

again in 1872. During the years 1877-9 he made a tour of the world and was received everywhere with the highest honors. General Grant died July 23, 1885.

Illinois during the Civil War contributed to the Union army 214,133 men, 34,834 of whom fell in battle or died of disease during service in the field or as war prisoners in the South.

In spite of the Civil War of 1861-1865 the economic development of the state progressed almost unimpeded. In 1860 Illinois already took first rank among agricultural states, and its industrial progress was rapid. During twenty years, 1850-1870, Illinois advanced from fifteenth to fifth place as a manufacturing state. At the present time it stands third in rank with reference to manufactures and varied industries. This phenomenal growth was principally due to the rapid extension of the railroad system, that work going forward at such a pace that Illinois in 1870 had more miles of railway than any other state in the Union, a distinction which it still enjoys.

Up to 1870 agriculture was the chief occupation of its people, the farmers outnumbering those of all other occupations combined. Since then, however, this condition has changed, and in 1900 those engaged in manufactures and varied industries outnumbered the agricultural population. The number engaged in commerce and transportation was almost as large as the industrial class, there being, however, no material difference in the numerical strength of the three groups.

With respect to the value of the crops, Illinois in 1900 ranked first among the states, and in coal production it had second place. Its banking business gives it a place among the leading commercial states.

No better exponent of the development is found than the census records, which give the increase in population by decades as follows:

Year	No. of Inhabitants	Year	No. of Inhabitants
1820	55,162	1870	2,539,891
1830	157,445	1880	3,077,871
1840	476,183	1890	3,826,351
1850	851,470	1900	4,821,550
1860	1,711,951		

The Educational System

The first step in establishing free public schools in the part of the country now comprising the state of Illinois was taken by congress May 20th, 1785, in adopting "An Ordinance for Ascertaining the Mode of Disposing Lands in the Western Territory." By this act the system of survey still in force was introduced into the United States. The system was the work of Captain Thomas Hutchins, who at the same time was appointed surveyor general. The act stipulated that section

16 of every township was to be reserved for the maintenance of public schools within the township. The same provision was made in all subsequent ordinances pertaining to the disposal of public lands. In



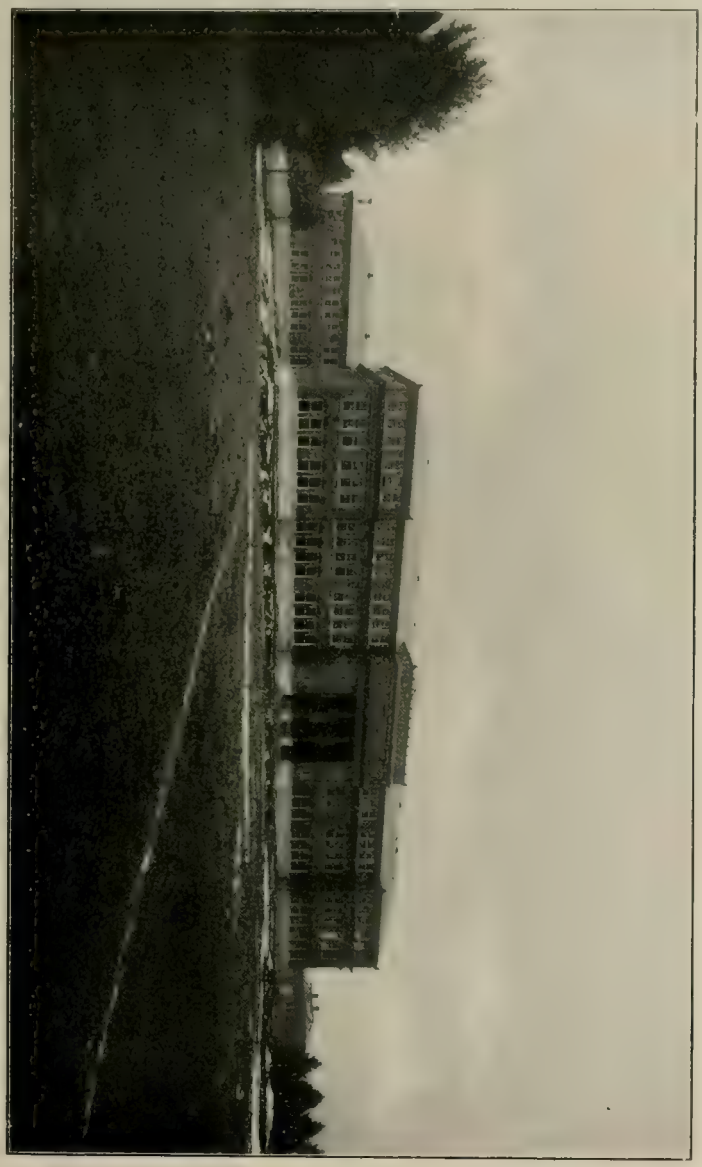
University of Illinois—Library Building

the Northwest Ordinance, adopted in 1787, this declaration was made: "Whereas religion, morals and education are necessary to human happiness, the establishment of schools and other means of education should be constantly encouraged." The stipulations regarding land grants for the support of schools were renewed in an act of congress April 18, 1818, giving to the people of the Illinois Territory the right of self-government, and they were formally adopted by the first constitutional convention. This act also included a provision that, besides the lands set aside for school purposes in the act of 1804, an entire township was to be reserved for the maintenance of a seminary of learning and that three per cent. of the proceeds of the sale of public lands in the state should be devoted to the promotion of education as directed by the legislature. One-sixth of this fund was to be used for establishing and endowing a college or university. These acts and resolutions form the foundation of the educational system of the state.

Prior to their adoption, however, primary schools had been established. One John Seeley is said to have begun teaching school in a blockhouse in present Monroe county as early as 1783, thus being the first known public school teacher in Illinois. Seeley was followed by Francis Clark and a man named Halfpenny. Among the early educators during a later period we note John Boyle, a soldier in the little army commanded by Col. George Rogers Clark, who taught in Randolph county some time during 1790-1800; John Atwater, who taught near Edwardsville in 1807, and John Messinger, a surveyor, who was a member of the constitutional convention of 1818 and speaker of the first general assembly. The last named taught in the vicinity of Shiloh, St. Clair county, at the point where Rev. John M. Peck's Rock Spring Seminary was subsequently erected. These schools, all of a primitive nature, were supported privately by the parents of the pupils.

The first effort to establish a general school system for the entire state was made in January, 1825, when Joseph Duncan, who was afterwards elected congressman and governor, submitted to the legislature a bill to appropriate two dollars out of every $100 of state revenue for distribution among those paying taxes or otherwise contributing to the support of schools. The revenues of the state at this time were, however, so insignificant (a trifle over $60,000 per annum), that the sum thus realized for school purposes would have amounted to about $1,200 annually, if the act had been enforced. It remained a dead letter until 1829, when it was nullified, and the state authorities began to dispose of the seminary lands and use the proceeds of the sale for defraying current expenditures. In this manner 43,200 acres were sold, leaving only four and one half sections, and the sum realized was less than

$60,000. The first sale of township school land took place in Greene county in 1831, and two years later the greater part of the school lands



University of Illinois—College of Agriculture

in the heart of present Chicago were sold for about $39,000. These sales continued until 1882 and brought an average of $3.78 per acre. Certain lands were sold as low as 70 cents per acre. These meager results were not chargeable to the system, but to the administration of it. Had the authorities exercised foresight, the school fund doubtless

would have grown vastly greater. The first free public school in the state was opened at Chicago in 1834, the second at Alton in 1837, the third at Springfield in 1840, and the fourth at Jacksonville the same year.

The present school system dates from 1855, when a law was passed creating a permanent school fund by general taxation. Since then the school law has been frequently amended, yet the fundamental principle that every child is entitled to the advantage of an elementary education has always been carefully guarded. It may be said without exaggeration, that the Illinois school system in the last forty years has been developed into one of the best in the country. The following figures will convey a fair idea of this remarkable development:

In 1902 the state had 12,855 free public schools with 27,186 teachers, 6,800 male and 20,386 female, and 971,841 pupils. The cost of maintenance was $19,899,624.54, including teachers' salaries to the amount of $12,075,000.14. In the same year the private schools in the state numbered 3,961 teachers and 144,471 pupils.

There are, furthermore, 350 high or continuation schools, supplementing the public schools. These are the natural results of the development of the educational system, not the creation of any legislative statute. Eighty-eight of the 350 high schools own buildings valued at $4,000,000, and one has a permanent endowment fund, while the others are maintained by local taxation. They were attended in 1902 by 41,951 pupils, 5,230 of whom were graduated.

Higher education in Illinois dates from the time when it was still a part of the Indiana Territory. In November, 1806, the territorial legislature, assembled at Vincennes, resolved to establish at that point an institution to be known as the University of Indiana Territory. The necessary funds, estimated at $20,000, were to be raised by means of a lottery. A board of regents was at once selected, with General William Henry Harrison as chairman. This enterprise advanced as far as the erection of a building and then collapsed.

Twenty-one years later, in 1827, the first successful effort at establishing a higher institution of learning in Illinois was made. The credit belongs to Rev. John M. Peck, a minister of the Baptist denomination. Peck was born in Litchfield, Conn., in 1789, settled in Greene county, N. Y., in 1811; took charge of a congregation in Amenia, N. Y., in 1814, and was sent in 1817 as a missionary to St. Louis, Mo. During the following nine years he made extensive journeys in Missouri and Illinois, and finally settled in Rock Spring, St. Clair county, where he founded in 1826 the Rock Spring Seminary and High School for the education of clergymen and school teachers. This was the predecessor of Shurtleff College, established by the Baptists in 1835 at Upper Alton.



University of Illinois—Engineering Hall

being subsequently merged with that institution. In promoting his enterprise Peck traveled thousands of miles, collecting meanwhile the sum of $20,000, a considerable amount in that day. For many years he continued a member of the board of directors of the school. This educational pioneer of Illinois was awarded the honorary degree of

Doctor of Divinity by Harvard University in 1852. He died at Rock Spring March 15, 1858.

In 1828 a Methodist seminary was established at Lebanon under the name of Lebanon Seminary. After two years it was made a college and named after Bishop McKendree. Illinois College was founded in December, 1829, at Jacksonville with the support of the Presbyterians, and from this institution the first graduates in the history of Illinois schools were sent out in 1835. These schools of learning were legally recognized by the state the same year. Next in order came Knox College, founded by Presbyterians in 1838, at Galesburg, and the Episcopalian Jubilee College, established in 1847, at Peoria.

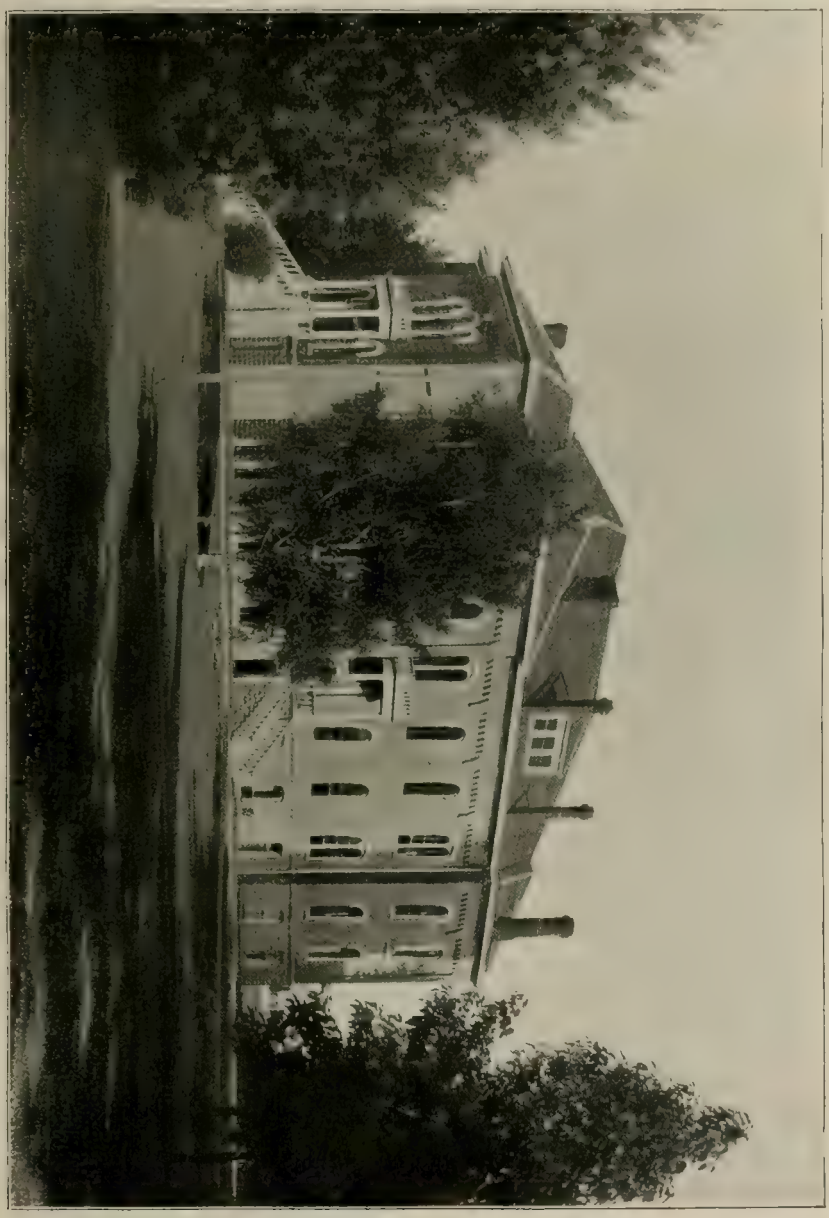


University of Illinois—Campus Scene

For the promotion of general education there were held, during the thirties and forties, a series of educational conventions, attended not only by teachers but also by legislators and others devoted to the cause. The first convention was held in the then capital city of Vandalia, in 1833. In 1854 these conventions resulted in the organization of the State Teachers' Institute, its name being changed three years later to the State Teachers' Association. The question of electing a state superintendent of public instruction had been raised as early as 1837 and debated at the educational conventions, in the educational journals, and in the state legislature, but not until 1854 did the proposition materialize in the establishment of that office.

It was during this progressive period that the idea of founding a state university was conceived. At a farmers' convention, held Nov. 18, 1854, at Granville, Putnam county, one Prof. Jonathan B. Turner from Jacksonville, Ill., proposed the plan for a uniform system of polytechnic schools throughout the United States, with one scientific school in each state and territory, and a national institute of science in the federal capital. The same plan was received with favor elsewhere, especially in New York and New England, and not without interest in Illinois. The meeting at Granville was followed by others, and at one of these conventions, held at Springfield in January, 1852, was organized the Industrial League of the State of Illinois to further the project and arouse popular interest by means of lectures throughout the state. It was decided at this meeting to petition congress for land grants out

of the proceeds of which to support these institutes. In 1853 Illinois, through its legislature, unanimously recommended the plan and



University of Illinois—College of Law

requested its senators and representatives in congress to promote its adoption. The matter was taken up in congress and a bill authorizing such institutions was passed, but annulled in February, 1859, by the

veto of President Buchanan. The matter was again taken up and a bill passed, which received the approval of President Lincoln July 2, 1862.

Thus a great movement in the Prairie State, advocated by an Illinois man, supported by Illinois people, was confirmed by an Illinois president.

By this act the national government donated to each state in the Union public land scrip in quantity equal to 30,000 acres for each senator and representative in congress "for the endowment, support,



University of Illinois—Auditorium

and maintenance of at least one college, whose leading object shall be, without excluding other scientific and classical studies, and including military tactics, to teach such branches of learning as are related to agriculture and the mechanical arts * * * in order to promote the liberal and practical education of the industrial classes in the several pursuits and professions of life."

On account of this grant, amounting to 480,000 acres in Illinois, the state pays the university, semi-annually, interest at the rate of five per cent. on about $610,000; and deferred payments on land contracts amount, approximately, to $35,000.

To secure the location of the university several counties entered into competition by proposing to donate to its use specified sums of money, or their equivalent. Champaign county offered a large brick building in the suburbs of Urbana, erected for a seminary and nearly completed, about 1,000 acres of land, and $100,000 in county bonds. To this the Illinois Central railroad added $50,000 in freight.

The state has from time to time appropriated various sums for permanent improvements, as well as for maintenance. For 1907—1908

it appropriated $305,000 for the College of Agriculture, $900,000 for ordinary operating expenses, and $502,790 for various extensions, besides which $100,000 was set aside for the Graduate School, $250,000 for a physics laboratory, and $150,000 for an addition to the Natural History Hall. The present value of the entire property and assets is estimated at $3,250,000.

The institution was incorporated February 28, 1867, under the name of the Illinois Industrial University, and placed under the control of a board of trustees, constituted of the governor, the superintendent of public instruction and the president of the state board of agriculture, as ex-officio members, and twenty-eight citizens appointed by the governor. The chief executive officer was called Regent, and was made an ex-officio member of the board and presiding officer both of the board of trustees and of the faculty.



University of Illinois—Woman's Building

In 1873 the board of trustees was reorganized, the number of appointed members being reduced to nine and of ex-officio members to two—the governor and the president of the state board of agriculture. In 1887 a law was passed making membership elective at a general state election and restoring the superintendent of public instruction as an ex-officio member. There are, therefore, now three ex-officio members and nine by public suffrage. Since 1873 the president of the board has been chosen by the members from among their own number for a term of one year.

The university was opened to students March 2, 1868, when there were present, beside the Regent, three professors and about fifty students—all young men.

During the first term instruction was given in algebra, geometry, physics, history, rhetoric and Latin. Work on the farm and gardens or about the buildings was at first compulsory for all students, but in March of the next year compulsory labor was discontinued, save when it was made to serve as a part of class instruction. A chemical laboratory was fitted up during the autumn of 1868. Botanical laboratory work began the following year. In January, 1870, a mechanical shop was fitted up with tools and machinery, and here was begun the first

shop instruction given in any American university. During the summer of 1871 the present engineering laboratory was erected and equipped for students' shop work in both wood and iron.

By vote, March 9, 1870, the trustees admitted women as students. During the year 1870-1871 twenty-four availed themselves of the privilege. Since that time they have constituted from one-sixth to one-fifth of the total number of students.

In 1890 the congress of the United States made further appropriations for the endowment of the institutions founded under the act of 1862. Under this enactment each such college or university received the first year $15,000, and thereafter $1,000 per annum additional to the amount of the preceding year, until the amount reached $25,000, which sum was to be paid yearly thereafter.

On May 1, 1896, the Chicago College of Pharmacy founded in 1859, became the School of Pharmacy of the University of Illinois. Its building is located at Michigan ave. and 12th st. in Chicago.

Pursuant to action of the board of trustees, taken Dec. 8, 1896, the School of Law was organized, and opened Sept. 13, 1897. The course of study covered two years, in conformity with the existing requirements for admission to the bar of Illinois. In the following November, however, the supreme court of the state announced rules relating to examinations for admission to the bar which made three years of study necessary, and the course of study in the law school was immediately rearranged on that basis. On Feb. 9, 1900, the name of the School of Law was changed to College of Law.

Negotiations looking to the affiliation of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, of Chicago, with the university, which had been going on for several years, were concluded by the board of trustees in March, 1897. According to the agreement made, the College of Physicians and Surgeons became in April, 1897, the College of Medicine of the University of Illinois. The college is located at Congress and Honore streets, Chicago.

In 1897, the matter of the reorganization of the University Library was considered by the board of trustees, with the result that the School of Library Economy, which had been established in 1893 at the Armour Institute of Technology, in Chicago, was transferred to the university, and the director of that school was appointed librarian of the University Library. In accordance with these plans the State Library School was opened at the university in September, 1897.

Pursuant to action taken by the board of trustees in March, 1901, a School of Dentistry was organized as a department of the College of Medicine. The school was opened October 3, 1901. The name was changed to College of Dentistry in 1905.

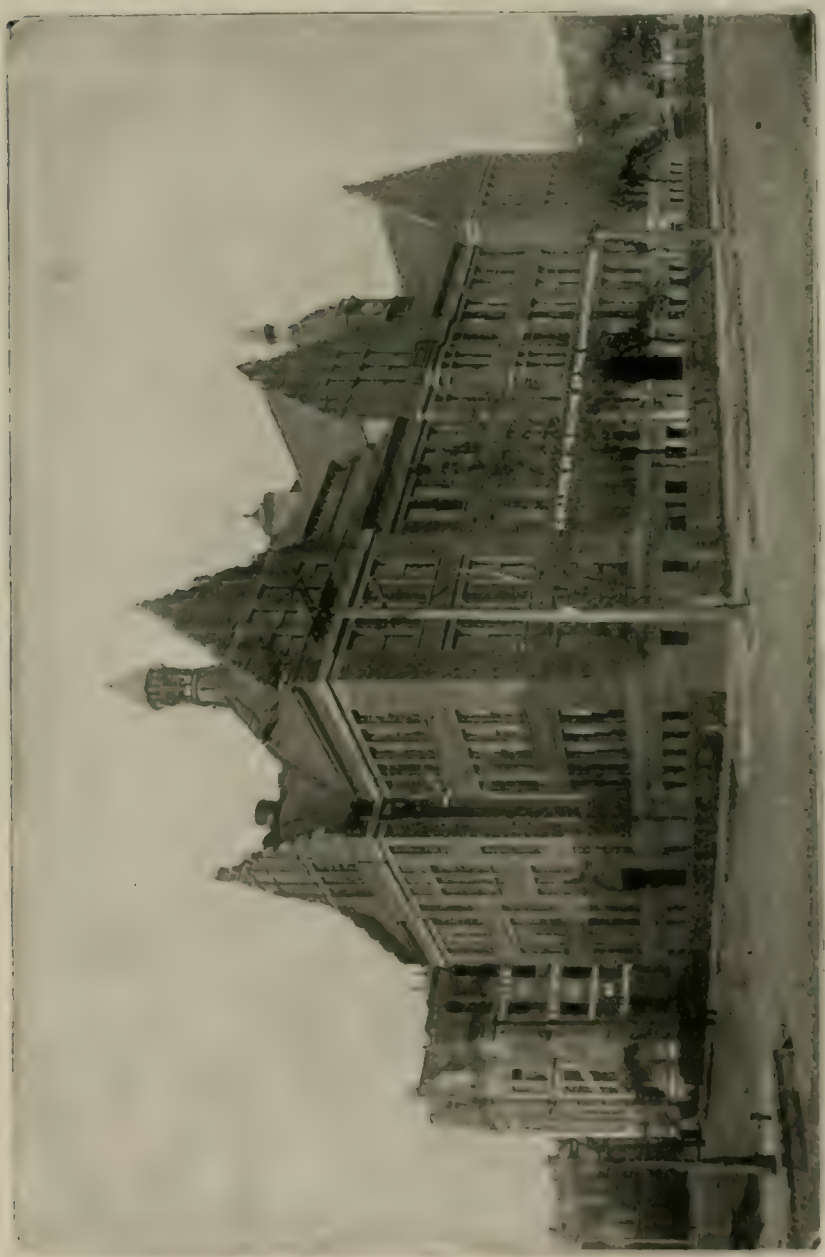
The land occupied by the university and its several departments embraces 220 acres, exclusive of the stock farm, experimental farm, and forest plantation, which embrace some 400 acres additional. The principal buildings are: the university hall, agricultural building, armory, library building, astronomical observatory, chemical laboratory, engineering hall, laboratory of applied mechanics, mechanical engineering laboratory, metal shops, wood shop and foundry, natural history hall, men's gymnasium, woman's building and auditorium. The general university library contains 90,400 volumes and pamphlets, and has a subscription list of 1,100 periodicals. To this is added the library of the state laboratory of natural history, 6,000 volumes and 16,500 pamphlets, and those of the college of medicine and dentistry, and the school of pharmacy, in Chicago, and the college of law. The department of education has a special collection of 1,500 books and 3,000 pamphlets. An art gallery was established in 1874, the gift of citizens of Champaign and Urbana.

The appropriations made by the congressional act of March 2, 1887, were for the purpose of establishing and maintaining, in connection with the colleges founded upon the congressional act of 1862, agricultural experiment stations, "to aid in acquiring and diffusing among the people of the United States useful and practical information on subjects connected with agriculture, and to promote scientific investigation and experiment respecting the principles and applications of agricultural science." Under this provision the Agricultural Experiment Station for Illinois was founded in 1888 and placed under the direction of the trustees of the university, and a part of the university farm, with buildings, was assigned for its use.

The federal grants to the station have been liberally supplemented with state appropriations, until its revenues have become the largest of those of similar institutions throughout the world.

Investigations are conducted in the growing and marketing of orchard fruits, the methods of production of meats and of dairy goods, the principles of animal breeding and nutrition, and in the improvement and the economic production of crops. All the principal types of soil of the state are being studied in the laboratory under glass and in the field. A soil survey is in progress which when finished will map and describe the soil of every farm of the state down to an area of ten acres. Twenty to thirty fields and orchards are rented in different portions of the state for the study of local problems, and assistants are constantly on the road for the conduct of experiments or to give instruction to producer or consumer. The results of investigation are published in bulletins, which are issued in editions of 40,000, and distributed free of charge.

The Engineering Experiment Station was established by action of the board of trustees, in December, 1903. It is the first and, so far as



University of Illinois College of Medicine Chicago

known, the only experiment station connected with any college of engineering in this country. Its purposes are the stimulation and

elevation of engineering education, and the study of problems of special importance to professional engineers, and to the manufacturing, railway, mining, industrial and other interests of importance to the public welfare of the state and the country.

Up to the present time, eleven bulletins, of value to engineering science, have been published. The experiments have related chiefly to tests of concrete, reinforced concrete beams, tests of high speed tool steels, the resistance of tubes to collapse, fuel tests, and the holding power of railroad spikes.

In 1885 the legislature passed a bill transferring the State Laboratory of Natural History to the University of Illinois from the Illinois State Normal University, where it was founded in 1877 by the present director, Dr. Stephen Alfred Forbes, a noted scientist, who is also state entomologist. This laboratory was created for the purpose of making a natural history survey of the state, the results of which should be published in a series of bulletins and reports, and for the allied purpose of furnishing specimens illustrative of the flora and fauna of the state to the public schools and to the state museum.

The herbarium contains about 50,000 mounted specimens of plants. The flora of North America is fairly well represented, the collection of species of flowering plants indigenous to Illinois is particularly complete, and a considerable collection of foreign species has been made. The collections of fungi amount to 32,000 named specimens and include a full set of those most injurious to other plants, causing rusts, smuts, moulds, etc. There are specimens of wood from 200 species of native trees and shrubs, which well illustrate the varieties of native wood.

The work of the state entomologist's office has been done at the University of Illinois since January, 1885; and by legislative enactment in 1899 it was permanently established at the university. It is the function of the entomologist to investigate the entomology of Illinois, and particularly to study the insects injurious to the horticulture and agriculture of the state, and to prepare reports of his researches and discoveries in entomology for publication by the state. Over 700 pages of reports have been issued from this office. He also inspects and certifies annually all Illinois nurseries, and maintains a general supervision of the horticultural property of the state as respects its infectation by dangerous insects and its infection with contagious plant diseases.

The chemical survey of the waters of the state was begun in September, 1895, by Dr. Arthur W. Palmer. In 1897 the legislature authorized the continuance of the work, and directed the board of trustees to establish a chemical and biological survey of the waters of the state. Its purpose is to collect facts and data concerning the water supplies of the state; to demonstrate their sanitary condition by

examination and analysis; to determine standard of purity of drinking waters in the various sections, and publish the results of these investigations. Analyses of water for citizens of the state are made on request.

An act of the general assembly on July 1, 1905, provided for the establishment of a bureau to be known as the state geological survey.



University of Illinois Electrical and Mechanical Laboratory and Laboratory of Applied Mechanics

Its purpose is primarily the study and exploitation of the mineral resources of Illinois. Field parties are organized for the investigation of clay, coal, stone, artesian water, cement materials, road materials and general scientific investigations. The bureau is charged also with the duty of making a complete topographical and geological survey of the state. The topographical work will lead to the publication of a series of bulletins and of maps, eventually covering the entire state.

The attendance at the state university increased very slowly year by year, until the nineties, when an exceptional increase set in. In 1889-90 there were but 469 students. In 1891-2 the number of students was 583, but six years later it reached 1,582, and in the school year of 1901-2 the 3,000 mark was passed. Four years later the number exceeded 4,000, and the summer of 1906-7 showed 4,316 students in attendance. In 1907-8 the attendance was over 4,700 students.

John Milton Gregory, the first president, came to the university in 1867 and laid the plans for the new type of college whose appropriate motto was chosen as, "Learning and Labor." His life-work was fostering the idea of laboratory education. His faith and earnestness of purpose made the present university possible. He resigned in 1880, died in 1898, and is buried on the university grounds.

Selim Hobart Peabody, the second president, had been professor of mechanical engineering and consequently was well acquainted with Gregory's plans. It was in 1885, the sixth year of his presidency, that the legislature was persuaded to change the name of the institution to University of Illinois. It was perhaps this as much as any other fact that awoke the people of Illinois to the splendid opportunities of their own institution. Dr. Peabody resigned in 1891.

From 1891 to 1894 Vice President Thomas Jonathan Burrill administered the affairs of the university. He declined the presidency, preferring to devote his entire time to botany. During this period the natural history hall and the engineering building were erected.

Andrew Sloan Draper became the third president in September, 1894. The university grew phenomenally, not only in numbers, but in material equipment. Eighteen buildings were erected on the campus during his term of office. He resigned in 1904 to resume the position of commissioner of education in New York state, which he had held before.

Edmund Janes James, the fourth president of the university, was born May 21, 1855, at Jacksonville, Ill. He prepared at Illinois State Normal School and continued his studies at Northwestern University in 1873, at Harvard in 1874, and at University of Halle 1875-7, receiving the degrees of M. A. and Ph. D. Returning to this country, he was principal of the Evanston, Ill., high school 1878-9, then transferring his activities to the Illinois State Normal School, at Normal, where he was professor of Latin and Greek, and principal of the high school department until 1883. After a year of research in Europe Dr. James was called to the professorship in public administration at the University of Pennsylvania. He organized the graduate school and was director of the Wharton School of Finance and Economy at that university. Owing largely to his efforts similar departments have been

established in the Universities of California, Chicago, Michigan and Columbia University. His report on commercial education to business men in Europe, made in 1892, has become a standard authority on this subject. Dr. James is the author of more than one hundred papers and monographs on various economic, legal, educational and historical topics. He is president of the Illinois State Historical Society, and is a member of various patriotic, historical, scientific and educational societies. Dr. James is a man of broad attainments and the University of Illinois is, under his guidance, rapidly advancing by leaps and bounds toward its probable position as the greatest of the American state universities.



University of Illinois—Men's Gymnasium

The development of the school system necessitated provision for the education of competent teachers. The initiative was taken by the legislature Feb. 18, 1857, in authorizing the establishment of the Illinois State Normal University, at Normal, which was opened October 5th of the same year. This was the first teachers' seminary in the Mississippi valley, and it has furnished teachers to the majority of the normal schools since established in various states. At the same time the legislature established the State Board of Education, comprising a state superintendent of public instruction and fourteen other members.

The normal school soon proved inadequate to meet the demand for teachers, and on March 9, 1869, the legislature resolved to found a second institution of the same order, which was located at Carbondale, being completed June 30, 1874, and known as the Southern Illinois Normal University. During the nineties three other normal schools were established, namely, the Eastern Illinois Normal School at Charleston, and the Northern Illinois Normal School at DeKalb, by act of the legislature May 22, 1895, both being opened in September, 1899, and last the Western Illinois Normal School at Macomb, authorized by the legislature April 24, 1899, and opened before completion in September, 1902.

In addition to the aforesaid institutions, the state maintains four special schools, viz., the Institution for the Education of the Deaf and Dumb, and the Institution for the Blind, both at Jacksonville, the

Asylum for the Feebleminded, at Lincoln, and the Soldiers' Orphans Home at Normal.

The religious denominations maintain a great number of educational institutions, the mere enumeration of which would require pages. The most prominent ones are the Chicago and the Northwestern Universities, which will be dealt with in a subsequent chapter on the City of Chicago.

With this synopsis of the educational system this outline of the history of the state of Illinois may fitly end.

CHAPTER II

The City of Chicago

Early History

CHICAGO, as a city, date from the year 1837, but its early history stretches back into the latter part of the sixteenth century. The name Chicago or Chikagou first occurs on a map of Illinois drawn by the Frenchman Franquelin in 1684. It was applied both to a river emptying into the Desplaines just above the mouth of the Kankakee and to a point on the shore of Lake Michigan identical with the present site of Chicago. Some years later the French explorers used the name Chekagou to denote the present Desplaines River.

The next recurrence of the name was in the memoirs left by the aforementioned Tonti. This explorer, who in 1685 made a journey from Canada to Illinois, writes: "October 30, 1685 I embarked for Illinois, but on account of the ice I left my canoe and proceeded by land. Having traveled 120 leagues, I arrived at Fort Chicagou where M. de la Durantaye was commandant." There is no doubt that Fort Chicagou was one of the strongholds erected by the French to secure their possession of the newly discovered territory, nor is it questioned that the fort was situated on ground now a part of the great metropolis. The time and circumstances of its founding are unknown. From the memoirs of Tonti we learn that in 1699 there was a mission, where the gospel was preached to the neighboring Miami Indians. It appears from contemporary reports that adjacent to the mission and the fort was a French village of modest size, but we find no information as to how long this settlement was maintained.

The name Chicago is an Indian word, concerning whose original meaning philologists are not agreed. Some hold that it meant onion or garlic, others skunk, still others derive it from two Indian words meaning "wood gone." The first interpretation is based on the prolific growth of garlic along the Chicago River in early days; the second on the supposition that skunks were plentiful in the neighborhood; while the third presupposes that the place at one time had been covered with

woods which were afterwards cut down. In the absence of definite knowledge on this point one explanation may be as acceptable as another.

About 1730 the name was also borne by a chief of the Indian tribes of Illinois. When these tribes in 1736, through a treaty with the French, had reached the acme of their power, D'Artaguette, a French-Canadian, asked their aid against the Chickasaw Indians of Mississippi, who were making war upon the French at New Orleans. At the head of a force of 500 braves Chief Chicagou accompanied him to the land of the Chickasaws, where they were to join a French force under Bienville. The latter did not arrive at the time and place appointed, and the Illinois warriors together with the fifty French soldiers proceeded, under the command of D'Artaguette, to capture and occupy two of the Chickasaw strongholds. In a third attack D'Artaguette was wounded and made prisoner. Chief Chicagou then returned with his men to Illinois, while the Chickasaws, with the enemies' scalps at their belts, marched in triumph to Georgia on a visit to Governor Oglethorpe, with whom they had made a friendly treaty.



CHIEF CHICAGOU

Certain historians claim that the name Chicagou was applied to a long line of subsequent chiefs of the Illinois tribes. Whether or not these chieftains had any connection with the place bearing that name is not established.

Not until a hundred years after Tonti's visit at Chicago, do we find the place again mentioned in the early accounts. In 1796, we are told, a mulatto named Jean Baptiste Pointe du Sable, who was born in San Domingo, settled on the north bank of the Chicago River, near its mouth, built a hut and began trading with the Indians. A short time afterwards, he sought to become their chief, which would indicate very friendly relations. His effort failed, however, and in his chagrin he sold the hut with the surrounding patch of cultivated soil to a French fur trader, named Le Mai, and moved to Peoria.

Fort Dearborn

After the purchase of the Louisiana tract from Napoleon Bonaparte in 1803, it became necessary for the United States to establish a fort for its protection. A commission was sent from the war department at Washington to select a suitable site, and on its recommendation it was decided to build a fort at the mouth of the St. Joseph River, on the east shore of Lake Michigan. Preparations for building had al-



Early Map of Illinois River Basin

ready been made when the Michigan Indians refused to grant the necessary site. To force their consent was deemed unwise and hazardous, therefore the government chose the alternative of erecting the fort at the mouth of the Chicago River, where it owned a tract comprising six square miles of ground ceded by the Indians as early as 1795.

To build a fort so far out in the wilderness was a risky undertaking, but no other site being available, the building orders were issued in the early summer of 1803. At that time Detroit and Michilimackinac were the farthest western outposts of the United States on the Great Lakes. A military company was in garrison at Detroit under command of Captain John Whistler, and to him was given the duty of supervising the erection of the fort as well as the command at the new outpost. The other officers at Detroit were two lieutenants, his

oldest son, William Whistler, and James S. Swearingen from Chillicothe, Ohio. The latter was ordered to head the soldiers afoot through the forests to Chicago, while Captain Whistler himself, together with his wife and their son, the lieutenant, with his young bride, embarked in the government schooner Tracy for the same destination.

Chicago at this time consisted of three little huts occupied by as many French fur traders with their Indian wives and half-breed children. One of these traders was the aforesaid Le Mai, the others Ouilmette (after whom the town of Wilmette has been named) and Pettell. The schooner arrived off the mouth of the Chicago River July 4th and anchored at a sand bank just opposite. Here its cargo of arms, ammunition and provisions was loaded into small boats and brought ashore at the point on the river bank selected as the site of the fort to be erected.

Two thousand Indians were assembled on the shore to witness the landing. The schooner itself was the object of their especial interest and admiration, and was styled "the great winged canoe." After debarking, Captain Whistler ordered the crew to return with the vessel to Detroit, and soon its sails disappeared at the eastern horizon. The total force left at Chicago, aside from the three commissioned officers, consisted of four sergeants, three corporals, four musicians, a surgeon and fifty-four privates, numbering altogether 69 men.

Their first duty was to build a blockhouse for shelter. This would have been an easy task, except for the fact that the logs had to be brought from a considerable distance. For lack of horses or oxen the soldiers themselves were obliged to drag the required timbers from the nearest woods to the point selected for the blockhouse. This point was on the south side of the river, on rising ground near present Rush street. The river did not, as at present, flow directly east, but curved southward and emptied into the lake at the foot of Madison street. On the ground within this bend the fort was subsequently erected. The whole summer and part of the fall had passed before the building was so far advanced that it afforded shelter for the men, and the fort was not completed until the following year. The fort then consisted of two blockhouses, one in the southeastern, the other in the northwestern corner of a palisaded area sufficiently large to serve as military drill grounds. From the palisades a subterranean passage led to the river's edge. The armament consisted of three small cannon. West of the palisades was built a loghouse two stories high, with shingled roof and walls. This was to serve as the warehouse of the Indian agency which was established simultaneously and served as a distributing center for large quantities of goods sent by the government as gifts to the Indians by way of winning their confidence and good will. The Indian agent also served as the quartermaster of the



The First and the Second Fort Dearborn

garrison. The post was named Fort Dearborn after General Henry Dearborn, then secretary of war under President Thomas Jefferson.

Life at Fort Dearborn during that first winter was a dreary monotony, which must have seemed like exile or imprisonment, particularly to Lieutenant Whistler's girl wife of sixteen, formerly Miss Julia Fenson of Salem, Mass. There was practically no opportunity to associate with people outside the stockade, there being no whites, with the exception of the three French fur traders with Indian wives. The monotony was somewhat relieved by a number of Americans settling in the vicinity of the fort in the next few years. In the following pages we will introduce a few of these Chicago pioneers.

John Kinzie and His Contemporaries

In 1804 John Kinzie, a fur trader, arrived at Fort Dearborn and purchased from Le Mai the house built by Du Sable and changed by its second proprietor into a general store. This house was situated on the north bank of the river, directly opposite the fort. Kinzie enlarged and improved the building, which may thus be considered the first American private residence in Chicago.

John Kinzie was born in Quebec in 1763, of Scotch parents, and came with his mother and stepfather to New York at an early age. There he was sent to a school on Long Island at the age of twelve, but he soon ran away from home and returned to Quebec where he went to work as a jeweler's apprentice. Later Kinzie rejoined his parents who, meanwhile, had removed to Detroit. Here he established himself as a jeweler and began trading with the Indians. He wedded a young girl, Margaret McKenzie, from Virginia, who together with her younger sister, Elizabeth, had been carried off by an Indian Chief and held prisoner for years. After McKenzie's return to Virginia together with his two daughters, Kinzie removed in 1800 to the St. Joseph River. No sooner had he heard of the establishment of Fort Dearborn than he decided to move there with his second wife, Mrs. Eleanor McKillip, widow of an English officer. He arrived in 1804, as stated, and established himself as an Indian trader, gaining and retaining the confidence of the natives. On account of his craft, they called him Shaw-nee-awkee, the silver man.

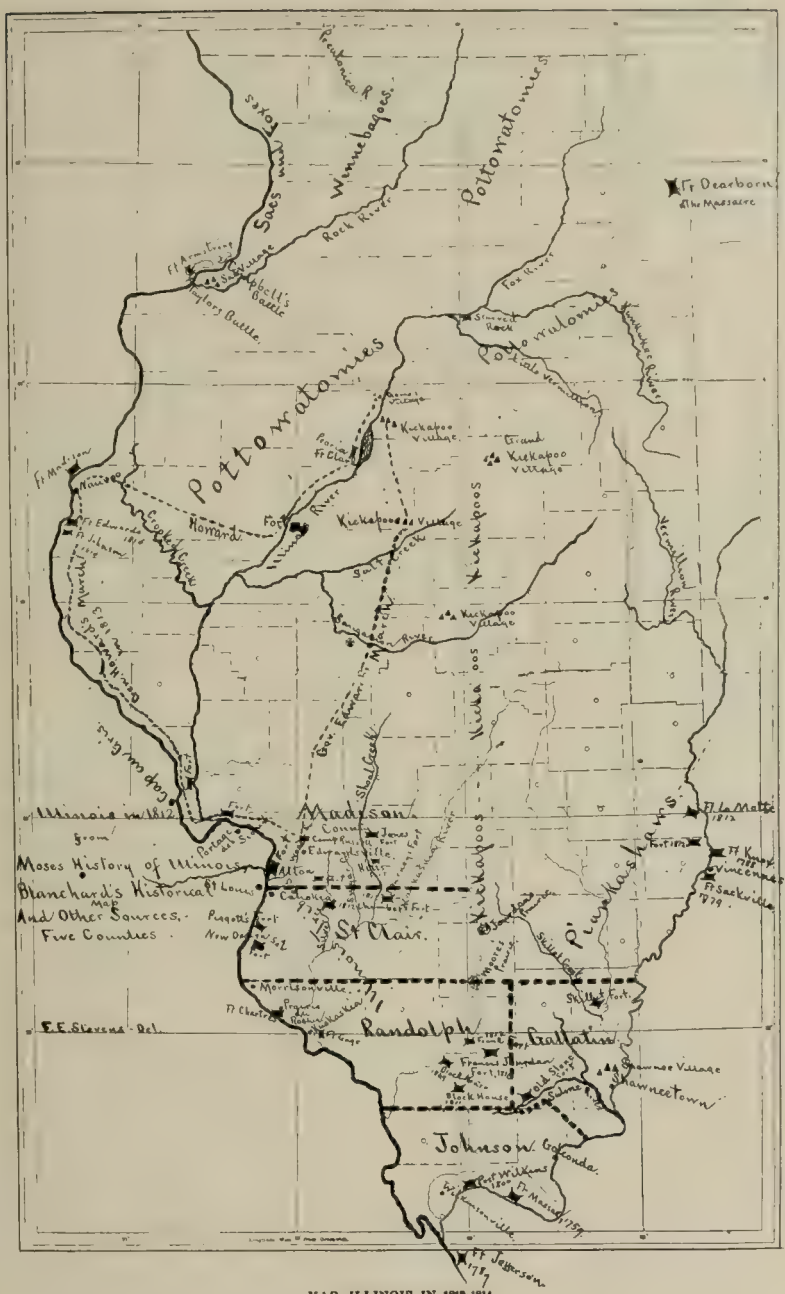
Already in 1805 Kinzie had established auxiliary trading posts in Milwaukee, on the Rock, the Illinois and the Kankakee rivers, and in the region now named Sangamon county. Every post had its representative, its French servants, called voyageurs or engagés, and horses, boats and canoes for the transportation of merchandise. From the majority of posts furs were carried on horseback to Chicago and goods for trading purposes brought back in the same manner. Ordinarily, two sailing vessels arrived at Chicago annually, in the spring and fall.

In these the furs were shipped to Mackinaw where the depots of the great fur companies were located. In other seasons of the year, the furs were sent in open boats to the same destination. With the exception of the garrison at Fort Dearborn, everybody at the fort was directly or indirectly interested in fur trading, and the percentage of servants in proportion to the total population was exceptionally high. But the masters themselves were mostly subordinates of the large fur companies.

There were two of these companies that early established commercial relations with Chicago. These were the Hudson Bay Company and the Northwest Fur Company, and a third competitor was the Mackinaw Company, until John Jacob Astor formed the American Fur Company, and in conjunction with the Northwest Company purchased the stock of the Mackinaw Company, forming the Southwest Company, its stockholders being largely English capitalists. In 1815, however, Congress prohibited foreigners from engaging in the American fur trade, whereupon Astor purchased the stock held by Englishmen and two years later formed a new concern named the American Fur Company.

John Kinzie was doubtless one of the shrewdest fur traders of his time. Though a frontiersman, he had killed but one man and that an Indian interpreter, Lalime, whom he killed in self-defense, in 1812. Kinzie had several children with each of his two wives, one of his daughters, Ellen Marion, being the first white child born in Chicago, and some of these settled at Fort Dearborn, whither other members of the Kinzie family were gradually attracted, so that in a decade or two the place had a considerable white population. They dwelt principally on the north side of the river, near the fort, but in the course of time huts began to dot the plan at some distance from it.

The first Indian agent at the fort was a Virginian, named Charles Jouett. He retained the position until 1811 when he was succeeded by one Captain Nathanael Heald. Jouett was also the superintendent of a so-called factory established there by the government. The circumstances were as follows: When the government learned of the enormous sums earned by the great fur companies in the fur trade with the Indians, it was deemed expedient, by way of improving the financial condition of the young republic, to establish factories or trading stations at the frontier forts with a view to sharing the prosperity of the private enterprises. The government purposed to make honest payment for all furs bought of the Indians in the form of necessaries of life. The presumption was that the natives would rather deal with the government representative than with traders who usually made them drunk and then cheated them shamefully. But the government agents proved vastly inferior to the private traders in shrewdness and ex-



MAP—ILLINOIS IN 1812-1814.

perience, this resulting in the total failure of the factory system. The American Fur Company, after its reorganization in 1817, swept away the government factories as well as all the individual traders and for

a time enjoyed a practical monopoly of the fur trade in the Northwest. The government withdrew from the field none the richer but much the wiser from its experiment in trafficking with the Indians.

The second, and presumably the last, Indian agent at Fort Dearborn was one Matthew Irwin of Philadelphia, who occupied that position from the year 1811 until the destruction of the fort in the following year.

The Fort Dearborn Massacre

Although the relations between the savages and the Americans were less cordial than the friendship that had existed between them and the French, yet the Fort Dearborn garrison had nothing to fear from them during the first few years, and could go about their peaceful pursuits in and about the fort in comparative safety. Soon, however, lowering clouds threatened the settlement, its fort and garrison with the storm and stress of warfare.

During the winter of 1804-5, Tecumseh, the brave, sagacious and eloquent Shawnee chief, and his brother Elskwatawa, called the Prophet, started on a tour from tribe to tribe in the Northwest, persuading the tribesmen to form a federation for the purpose of driving out the Americans. In spite of Tecumseh's glowing eloquence and his brother's auguries, based on revelations from the Great Spirit, that the campaign would be successful, the Illinois redskins remained peaceful. In 1810, a council of the Pottawatomies, Ottawas, and Chippewas was held at St. Joseph, Mich., resulting in a compact not to join the Tecumseh federation. General Harrison's victory over the Shawnees and other tribes in the battle of Tippecanoe, Ind., Nov. 7, 1811, highly enraged even the Illinois Indians against the encroachers, and in April, 1812, unfriendly hordes of Winnebagoes appeared in the neighborhood of the fort, terrorizing the settlers, many of whom sought refuge within the palisades.

After the United States declared war against England in 1812, numerous Indian tribes allied themselves with the English, hoping with their aid to drive the hated Americans from their territory. The fortunes of war at first favored the British. On the 9th of August the friendly Pottawatomie chief, Winnemeg, came to Fort Dearborn as a courier from General Hull at Detroit, bearing the message that on July 16th the formidable Fort Michilimackinac, the headquarters of the fur traders, had fallen into the hands of Indians. He also brought orders for Captain Nathanael Heald, who a year before had succeeded Captain Whistler in command at Fort Dearborn, to abandon the fort and retreat with the garrison to Detroit. Almost simultaneously the Indian swarmed around the fort, demanding the distribution among them of supplies stipulated, as they claimed, in previous treaties

The Fort Dearborn garrison consisted of only 54 regulars, 12 militiament and besides the commander, 2 officers, namely Lieutenant L. T. Helm and Ensign R. Ronan. Of the men a number were ill, reducing the available fighting strength to about forty. Besides, there were about a dozen women and twenty children under their protection. Captain Heald knew only too well that under such unfavorable circumstances it would be difficult, if not impossible, to defend the fort, and equally precarious to hazard a retreat. Contrary to the advice of John Kinzie, Winnemeg and other friends, to evacuate the fort before



Site of Fort Dearborn Massacre

the Indians had time to complete a plan of attack, he delayed action for six days, faintly hoping that the formerly friendly Pottawatomies, through whose territory he planned to march away, would permit him to depart without annoyance. Meanwhile, 500 or 600 Indian warriors gathered near the fort. With these Captain Heald held a parley on August 12th, promising them all the supplies and other property found at the fort and the agency in return for safe escort to Fort Wayne, Ind. The Pottawatomies agreed, knowing that the fort held large quantities of ammunition and whisky. At this juncture (August 13th) Captain Wells, the Indian agent at Fort Wayne, arrived with an escort of 30 friendly Miamis. Captain Wells, who was an uncle of Mrs. Heald, decried as senseless the idea of abandoning these supplies to the savages, Kinzie and the officers and men of the garrison joining in support of his view. Heeding the advice, the commander had all the arms and ammunition he was unable to take with him destroyed and the casks of whisky emptied into the river.

The news reached the ears of the Indian chiefs, who charged Captain Heald with gross deception and treachery and disclaimed

ability to keep their warriors from attacking the Americans. A council of war was held, resulting in a decision to massacre the garrison and settlers in the vicinity of the fort just after their departure. At 9 o'clock in the morning of August 15th the gates swung open and the garrison marched out. At the head rode Captain Wells, followed by 15 of the Miami escort, the remaining 15 bringing up the rear. A number



The Fort Dearborn Massacre Monument, Chicago. Black Partridge Saving Mrs. Helm

of Pottawatomies also joined the party, explaining that they desired to reinforce the escort. Kinzie, however, having heard that the Pottawatomies intended to ambuscade the retreating garrison, joined the soldiers, thinking his influence with the Indians might dissuade them from carrying out their savage plan. Before starting he left in the care of two trusty Indians a boat containing Mrs. Kinzie, her younger children, Grutte, the nurse, a bookkeeper, two servants, two other

Indians and two oarsmen. The soldiers marched slowly southward along the Michigan shore. Their wives and children followed in wagons and on horseback. The Pottawatomies soon separated from the escort and hurried away beyond the sand dunes to lie in wait for the company.

Captain Wells at once suspected their purpose and rode back to the main body apprising the soldiers of the treachery and telling them to prepare for a fight. They did not wait long for the expected attack. Officers and men resisted the onslaught with great bravery, but what did a handful of men, however courageous, avail against hundreds of savages? The provisions soon fell into the enemy's hands; many women and children were butchered. The Miamis fled in consternation at the first attack. Of the whites, Captain Wells, Ensign Ronan, and Surgeon Isaac Van Voorhis fell dead; Captain Heald and his wife, Lieutenant Helm and his wife, a stepdaughter of John Kinzie, and many others were wounded. The killed were scalped, and the heart of Captain Wells was cut out and distributed in small pieces among the tribes. In a few moments the Fort Dearborn garrison and population had been reduced to 25 men and 11 women, who were spared through the magnanimity of Black Partridge, a friendly chief, on condition that they lay down their arms. The prisoners were subsequently sent to the British commander at Detroit. The battle here described is known in the annals of Illinois and Chicago as the Fort Dearborn Massacre.

On the day after the massacre the Indians, having looted the fort and the agency during the night, set fire to the buildings, which soon burned to the ground. The same day General Hull surrendered not only the fort with its garrison and supplies at Detroit but all Michigan into the hands of the British and their Indian allies.

While the Fort Dearborn garrison fought the Indians among the sand dunes, John Kinzie's craft with its passengers still lay moored at the mouth of the Chicago River. The purpose had been to depart at once for St. Joseph across the lake, but the trip was interrupted by the battle. After the massacre the boat was brought back to the fort, and the members of the Kinzie family, Mrs. Heald and the rest returned to the Kinzie home under the protection of friendly and faithful Indians. Here they were threatened with destruction by a horde of Wabash Indians that had arrived for the purpose of participating with the Pottawatomies in the plunder, but found to their exasperation that they were too late. The Pottawatomie warriors and their sons were already disporting themselves in the articles of feminine apparel left behind at the evacuation.

Through the intervention of several chiefs, and particularly through the efforts of one Billy Caldwell, a brave and sagacious half-

breed, the little company was saved from annihilation, whereupon the Kinzie family, under the guidance and protection of an Indian escort, was brought to St. Joseph, thence in November to Detroit, where they were delivered up as prisoners of war to Col. McKee, the British commander. During the winter John Kinzie himself also was brought as a prisoner to Detroit. He was at once set at liberty on parole, but was again arrested some time afterwards under suspicion of corresponding with General Harrison of the American army, and was then separated from his family and sent to Canada. Four years later he returned, together with his family, to the desolated homestead on the



Wolf's Point, Chicago, in 1832. A Trading Post Conducted by Wolf at the Fork of the North and the South Branch of the Chicago River

Chicago River. One by one the scattered settlers returned and settled once more on Chicago's banks.

The second war with England was ended by a treaty signed Dec. 24, 1814. This also put an end to the Indian wars, it being stipulated in the articles of peace that thenceforth neither power should arouse the Indians against the other. The American government was now left to arrange matters peaceably with the western tribes. In 1816, by a treaty signed at St. Louis, Mo., it purchased from the Ottawas and Chippewas a tract along Lake Michigan, extending ten miles north and ten miles south from the Chicago River and back as far as the Kankakee, Illinois and Fox rivers. In order to keep up communications with the vast territory purchased thirteen years before from France and to protect the fur trade and other mercantile interests, a fort on Lake Michigan was deemed necessary. The following year, therefore,

the government issued orders for the erection of a new Fort Dearborn on the ruins of the old. The commission was given to Captain Hezekiah Bradley, who arrived on the site July 4th of that year, just thirteen years after Captain Whistler, the builder and first commander of the first Fort Dearborn, landed with his men.

The new fort was built on a larger scale than the old. To the administration building and barracks were added magazines and a supply storehouse, and the buildings were protected by a square of palisades and two bastions in opposite corners. This fort was evacuated in 1823, reoccupied in 1828, and again abandoned in 1831, only to be taken possession of by a new garrison the following year, at the outbreak of the Black Hawk War. The final evacuation occurred in 1836, after the Indians had withdrawn west of the Mississippi. The fort shared the fate of many other historic structures, being left to gradual decay and final annihilation at the hands of vandals. Thus one Judge Fuller, some time in the forties or fifties, had part of the administration building and one other structure torn down and rebuilt on sites owned by him on the south side. In 1857, one A. J. Cross, a city employee, had the remaining buildings torn down, except one, and the sandhill on which the fort had been located, graded to a level with the surrounding grounds. The remaining structure was moved to another part of the Fort Dearborn site. The great Chicago fire of 1871 removed this last trace of Fort Dearborn.

The development of Chicago in its early stages was very slow. In 1823 Major Long wrote: "This village offers no promise for the future, in view of the fact that, although quite old, the place numbers only a few huts, inhabited by a lot of miserable creatures, little better than the Indians whose descendants they are. Their loghouses are low, dirty and uninviting, lacking every requirement of home comfort. In a business sense, it holds out no inducement to strangers, the business of the village being limited to the disposal of the cargoes brought here by five or six schooners annually." As late as 1825 the village numbered only 75 or 100 inhabitants, 14 of whom owned taxable property. Real estate being non-assessable, the total value of taxable property amounted to $9,047. The most well-to-do settlers were, John Crofts, agent of the American Fur Company, with property worth $5,000, John B. Beaubien, worth $1,000, Archibald Clybourn, worth $625, Alexander Wolcott, worth $572, John Kinzie, worth $500. From the last item it appears that Kinzie, who is improperly called "the father of Chicago," at this time was a man in very moderate circumstances. Kinzie died Jan. 6, 1828, at the age of 65 years.

The village site was first surveyed in 1829 and divided into lots, a plat of which was made the following year. This survey embraced three-eights of a square mile. A post office was established in 1831.

It was a primitive affair, according to the report that Jonathan Bailey, the postmaster, nailed up old bootlegs on the wall as receptacles for incoming and outgoing mails.

Chicago as a Town and City

In the year 1833 the former Indian village and trading station entered upon a new stage of development. On August 10th of that year it was incorporated as a town, and a town council of five members was elected, with John V. Owen as its president. The town comprised an area of 560 acres, 175 buildings and 550 inhabitants, 29 of whom were entitled to vote. The property value was $60,000, with an assessed value of $19,560, and the taxes for the first year amounted to $48.90.

Nov. 6th of that year the first newspaper was issued, being the first issue of "The Chicago Democrat;" and the following year the first public school was established in Chicago, being also the first in the state. Several brick buildings were erected, and a bridge was built across the river, which since 1831 had been crossed by means of a ferry. In 1835 were added a courthouse and a school.

In four years the town of Chicago grew to be a point of no small importance commercially, as the following figures will show: In 1833 four vessels with a total tonnage of 700 arrived at Chicago; in 1834 one hundred and seventy-six vessels with a tonnage of 5,000, entered this port; in 1835 two hundred and fifty, with a tonnage of 22,500, and in 1836 four hundred and fifty, with a tonnage of 60,000. A shipyard was established, and on May 18th of the last named year, Chicago's first vessel, the sloop Clarissa, went down the ways. On July 4th the entire population witnessed the turning of the first sod in the work of digging the Illinois and Michigan canal, a waterway which, completed, became an important line of transportation for Chicago's commerce and for general traffic.

The great financial panic of 1837 naturally affected Chicago, but it could not stop the development so recently begun. Even at this early date Chicago seemed to possess a goodly amount of that spirit of enterprise for which it has since become famous. In the midst of the general crisis, the town sought and obtained a city charter, dated March 4, 1837. On the 1st of May following the first city election was held, at which W. B. Ogden, a wealthy and influential citizen, was elected Chicago's first mayor. The first census was taken July 1st, when the city was found to number 4,179 inhabitants.

To give a detail account of the city's further development would require volumes, but a brief outline will answer our present purpose.

In its second year as a city, the foundation was laid for that enormous line of commerce, the wheat trade, for which Chicago became

known in the markets of the world. The first cargo of wheat, 100 bushels, was now shipped east from Chicago. Before that time, grain and flour had been shipped to Chicago from the East. When the farmers in the vicinity of Chicago learned that there was a market for their grain, they hauled their wheat to the city by the wagonloads, and the buyers and sellers made their deals in the street. The unpracticability of this method led to the establishment of the Chicago



Chicago in 1858. Northeast View, Taken from the Old Court House

Board of Trade, which in a short time did an enormous business. As early as 1854 Chicago exported more grain than New York.

Other steps in the making of Chicago followed in quick succession. Its first railroad, The Chicago and Galena Union, was begun in 1847. The following year telegraphic connection was established, first with Milwaukee, then with the Atlantic coast cities. The same year (1848) the Illinois and Michigan Canal was opened for traffic, giving Chicago through the Illinois and Mississippi rivers a waterway to St. Louis and the Gulf cities. In another two years a gas lighting plant was established. Steamer routes between Chicago and other points on Lake Michigan were established in 1852. During the fifties several railroad lines radiated from Chicago, viz., the Michigan Southern and

the Michigan Central in 1852, the Chicago and Rock Island in 1854, the Chicago and Alton in 1855, and the Illinois Central in 1856. A waterworks system was established in 1854, and in 1859 the first fire engine was purchased, marking the initial step in introducing a modern fire-fighting system. The same year the first street railway was built in Chicago.

The growth of the system of transportation was followed by a phenomenal business development. The volume of business in 1852 was $20,000,000, in 1856, $85,000,000, and in 1860 $97,000,000.

The manufacturing industry increased correspondingly. In 1850 the value of Chicago manufactures was $2,562,583; ten years later it had increased to $13,555,671. The banking business naturally kept pace with the increase in other lines of business.

A powerful factor in the speedy development of Chicago was the influx of immigrants to the West. This began in the early forties and increased steadily for each succeeding decade. Labor and capital met in Chicago, making that city, in the course of a few decades, a center of business enterprise and human activity without a parallel.

Intellectual and spiritual development went hand in hand with the material growth. Congregations of various denominations were early established, increasing rapidly in numbers. Imposing church edifices were erected at short intervals. The public school system was carefully nurtured and improved; many higher institutions of learning were founded, among which several medical schools. Various kinds of charitable institutions sprang into existence. The Chicago Historical Society was organized in 1856 and the Academy of Sciences the next year.

The press has been not the least essential factor in the upbuilding of Chicago. "The Chicago Daily American," its first daily newspaper, was established in 1839. During the following two decades several large newspaper enterprises were launched, such as "The Evening Chicago Tribune" in 1847, and "The Chicago Times" in 1854.

This progress along all lines continued throughout the sixties. Figures to show this progress would prove a bewildering array, suffice, therefore, the bare mention of the principal enterprises of that decade. First in importance beyond compare was the establishment of the Union Stock Yards. The packing industry of Chicago dates back to the forties, but not until the founding of the Stock Yards did it assume the proportions of a giant industry. The Stock Yards proved a powerful stimulus to the stockraising industry of the West and Southwest, and in a few years Chicago was the leading live stock market in the United States. The exports of the packing plants increased year by year, making Chicago a household word abroad as well as at home. The

shipments of cattle to Chicago shows the following increase: in 1857, 48,524 heads, in 1866, 384,251, in 1870, 532,964; the corresponding exports were, 25,502, 268,723 and 391,709 heads. The hog shipments to Chicago were, in 1857, 244,345, in 1866, 1,286,326, and in 1870, 1,953,372 heads; the corresponding exports were, 123,568, 576,099 and 1,095,671 heads.

In the iron industry Chicago also made a name for itself. At the Illinois Steel Works North Chicago plant was rolled in 1865 the first



THE SAUGANASH HOTEL.

Built by Mark Beaubien on the S.-E. Corner of Lake and Market Streets, Previous to the Black Hawk War

iron rail manufactured in America. This marked the new birth of the railway system in the United States.

The constant increase in population made new demands on the sanitary drainage system. The sewerage, emptied into the Chicago River and carried by its current out into the lake, made the city's water supply a source of danger to the health of the inhabitants. To circumvent this peril, the city in 1864 began the construction of a two-mile water tunnel, terminating in a crib or intake. This tunnel was completed in 1866 and opened for use in March the following year.

The bridges spanning the river soon became inadequate for the lively traffic between the various portions of the city. This led to the construction of tunnels under the river for the transportation of passengers. The Washington street tunnel, the first of its kind in the United States, was built in 1868, and the La Salle street tunnel two years later. A third street railway tunnel was constructed at Van Buren street.

During the same decade the laying out of Chicago's extensive park system was begun. Three park boards, authorized in 1869 by the state legislature, were appointed and charged with this work on the north side, the west side and the south side respectively.

In 1866-70 a considerable stretch of the Illinois and Michigan Canal was deepened and improved at a total expense to the city of $3,251,621.

The Great Chicago Fire

As described in the preceding outline, such was Chicago in the beginning of the seventies. In some thirty odd years it had grown from an insignificant village with three or four thousand inhabitants to a great metropolis with a population of 300,000. In point of rapid growth it had outstripped almost every other city in the world. There yet seemed to be no limit to its development.

Then came that great catastrophe which with one fell swoop reduced to charred ruins the structure of three fruitful decades. Chicago, the young, the undaunted, was vanquished by the fiery fiend. In a few hours the conflagration completed its work of destruction, swept over an area of 2,100 acres, or nearly 3¼ square miles, reduced 17,500 buildings to ashes, made 98,500 people homeless, and destroyed property to the value of $190,000,000.

Great in its prosperity, Chicago proved itself grander still in adversity. What seemed like a crushing blow only served to spur it on to greater exertions towards a new and greater development. Ere the ashes had cooled, preparations were made for rebuilding the city, and out of the ruins there rose, in less than a year after the fire, a new Chicago, great in wealth and power, compelling the admiration of the world.

The Chicago fire was the worst disaster of its kind in history up to that time, being more destructive than the great London fire in 1666, those of New York, 1835, Hamburg, 1842, Constantinople, 1852, and is only surpassed by one similar calamity — the burning of San Francisco in April, 1906.

This terrible disaster occurred on the 8th and 9th of October, 1871. The main conflagration was preceded by a smaller fire which broke out in the evening of Saturday the 7th, on Clinton street, near Van Buren, on the west side, and, fanned by a strong wind, destroyed buildings on an area of twenty acres, causing a property loss of about $700,000 on dwellings, lumber yards and coal supplies, and leaving several hundred families without shelter.

The following Sunday was a bright autumn day. Tens of thousands visited the churches while other tens of thousands preferred to pace the streets, viewing the splendid decorations in honor of the expected visitor, Grand Duke Alexis of Russia. Many a devout church-

goer doubtless breathed silent thanksgivings to the Almighty for having averted the visitation that had threatened the city the night before. The great mass, on the contrary, seemed to have no thought of the disaster, oblivious as ever of the misfortunes of others, and intent only on their pleasures.

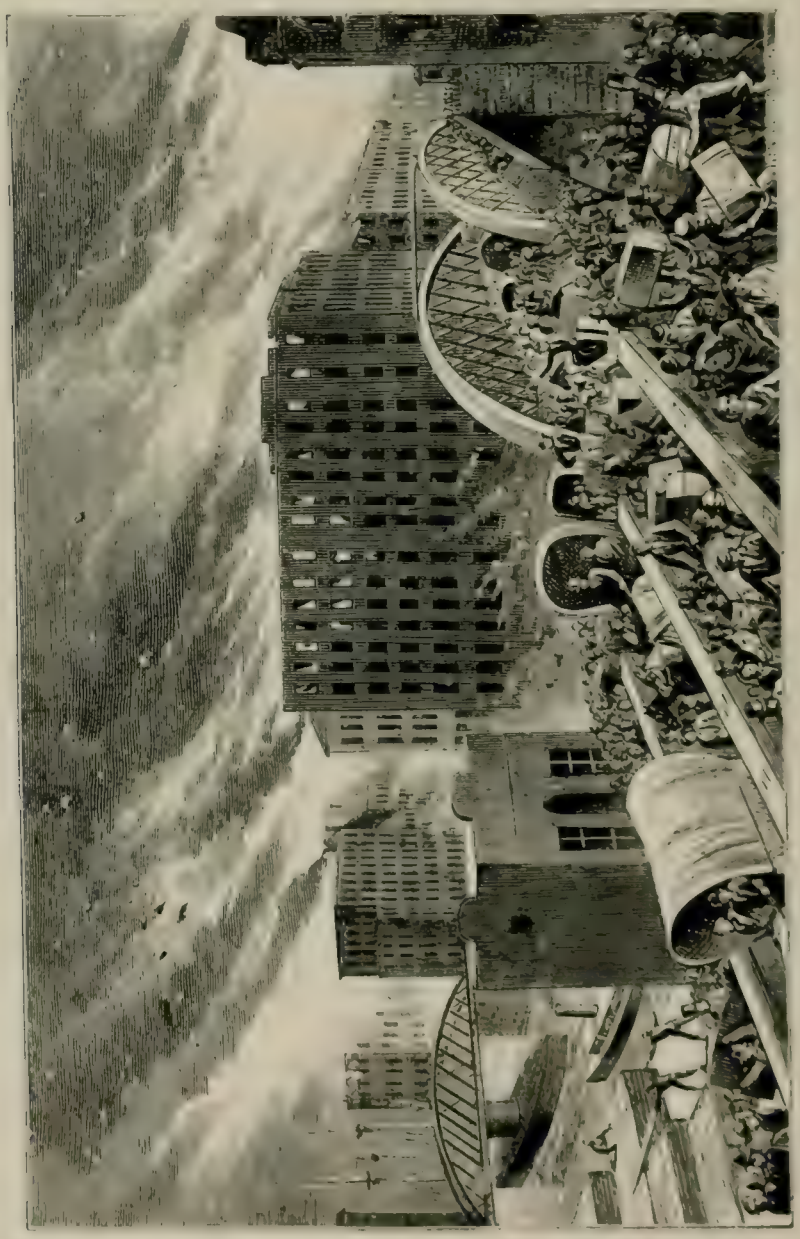
In the evening the city presented, if possible, a still more animated aspect. The devout again thronged toward the houses of worship, while the frivolous in still greater numbers surged to the theaters and other places of entertainment, how to find the greatest possible enjoyment being the question uppermost in every mind. The inhabitants of Pompeii and Herculaneum were probably no more light of heart the evening before they were buried in a rain of ashes and a stream of glowing lava than were the people of Chicago in the evening of the fated 8th of October.

At half past nine o'clock in the evening, just as the people were leaving the churches at the conclusion of the evening services, while the theatrical performances were nearing the acme of interest and dancing was in full swing in the halls of social pleasure, the fire alarm was given anew. The fire fighters, exhausted by the exertions of the previous day, again hurried with engines, hose carts and ladders to the field of battle on the west side. This time a fire had broken out at the corner of Jefferson and DeKoven streets, a point far to the south of the area devastated the night before. Following is the generally accepted story of how the fire started. An old Irishwoman, Mrs. O'Leary by name, who during the day had entertained a crowd of merrymakers, went out to the stable in the back yard at this late hour to milk her cow. A lamp which she placed beside her was kicked over by the animal, the litter of the stall was saturated with the oil and set on fire; the flames soon reached the fodder supply, and in a few seconds the stable was ablaze. The flames spread rapidly to neighboring frame buildings.

During the entire fall no rain had fallen; the frame structures with their shingled roofs were very dry and burned like tinder. To add to the disaster, the strong wind of the previous day had increased almost to a hurricane, adding to the fury of the rapidly spreading flames. In vain the firemen tried to stop the spread of the fire northward; step by step they were driven back. The fire soon divided its forces into two mighty columns which raced northward with incredible speed. The storm flung masses of sparks toward the northeast, and these advance scouts made independent attacks, setting buildings on fire far in advance of the main column of the fire-fiend. In this manner the firemen were repeatedly surrounded and forced to beat a hasty retreat or perish.

The public as well as the firemen hoped that the fire would die

out from lack of sustenance upon reaching the burnt area from the night before. This hope, however, proved a delusion. That point was



Fleeing Across the River from the Flames

reached at half past eleven in the evening, but the flames leaped quickly over the charred district, at once attacking the planing mills and fac-

tories on the west bank of the south branch of the river, which furnished ample nourishment. A sudden shift of the wind now hurled firebrands across the river to the main business district.

While the fire was limited to the west side, the inhabitants of the south and north sides felt comparatively safe, trusting to the skill and perseverance of the fire brigade. Besides, the river was depended upon to stop the onrushing element. But this last hope fled when they saw the firemen rushing their engines at top speed across the bridges to the business district, and flames began to shoot up from the roofs of buildings in the heart of the city. It was now apparent that this district also was doomed, and the work of saving portable property here was at once begun amid the stampede of the panic-stricken thousands.

Meanwhile the fire grew in extent and fury, being now absolutely beyond control. As it raged through the business district it afforded a spectacle well-nigh indescribable in its terrible grandeur. Great six and seven story buildings of brick and stone melted down like tapers before the fire. So intense was the heat that an ordinary building would be leveled with the ground in the brief space of five minutes. The moment the flames penetrated into a structure the windows would glow as though reflecting a sunset; in an instant the flames would leap skyward, forming a colossal pillar of fire which, erect but for a second or two, would waver in the wind and then be hurled down to ignite adjoining structures. This process was repeated again and again. A sea of fire rolled its gigantic waves over the city with nothing to impede their course. Now and then, when the flames reached a shop or storehouse containing explosives or highly inflammable liquids a series of explosions would hurl firebrands and redhot rocks high in the air, as from the crater of a volcano in action. The flames would take different colors according to the materials consumed, thus producing a play of color, remarkable for its varied splendor. Like varicolored snakes flames crept along cornices of copper or zinc, until they mingled in the fiery blast as the walls fell in. The spectacle was reflected in the heavens, which for miles around were glowing red, while the darkness beyond hung as a dark pall about the awful picture.

The noises produced by the fire were infinite in variety and made a weird concert that no hearer can ever forget. Writhing flames hissed, firebrands crackled. When the limestone walls of the buildings were exposed to the extreme heat, the masonry would scale off, particles flying in all directions with a sound as of a discharge of musketry. The roar of the storm and the incessant thunder of falling walls constituted the bass in this infernal orchestra. Through the terrific din came now and then the mournful sound of a bell. It was the bell in the courthouse tower, which up to 2 o'clock in the morning kept sounding the death-knell of the passing city.

The people of the doomed city became frenzied. Judging alone from their appearance and actions, one would have been led to the conclusion that the entire population had gone mad. The jam and panic in the streets beggared description. Crowds of men, women and children rushed along, howling and gesticulating like maniacs, stumbling over one another and colliding in great numbers at the street corners. Not all, however, lost their senses. Some cool heads there were who took the matter philosophically, some even who looked on the ludicrous side of it all. Such stoical characters shrugged their shoulders and drew their faces to a grim smile while witnessing the process of annihilation that plunged them in a moment from opulence to poverty. Others gnashed their teeth in helpless rage to see the results of years of toil shattered thus beyond repair. Still others, apparently hale and strong men, wept like children.

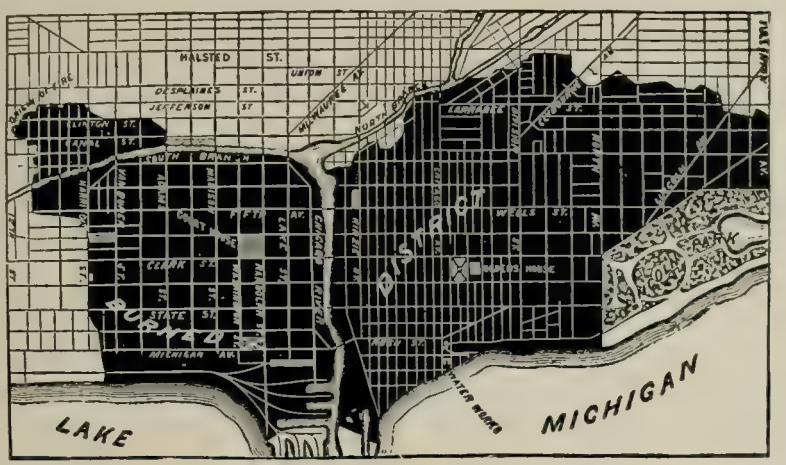
Sidewalks and yards to the south of the burning district were heaped with furniture and household articles of every description. The gilded trappings from the mansions of the rich were thrown helter skelter among the modest belongings of the pauper. Among these scattered fragments, rescued from a thousand homes, the owners, men or women, had generally stationed themselves so as to keep a watchful eye on their chattels. Proud ladies, who ordinarily would not stoop to the menial duty of lifting a chair, were seen staggering under the weight of trunks or heavy loads of books, pictures, and other articles of value. Some decked themselves out in all their jewels and finery, only to be relieved of their valuables by the first robber they encountered. Young girls strained their tender frames in carrying away pieces of furniture or heavy burdens of clothing and household goods, while aged women tottered along with armfuls of personal effects. Here and there groups of children stood guard over the property of their parents; other groups were bitterly bewailing the loss of parents or guardians in the crush of humanity. At one point a bareheaded woman would be kneeling on the ground before her crucifix, telling her beads with nervous fingers and mumbling silent prayers; at another a man, crazed by misfortune, would shake his clinched fists in the face of heaven as if challenging the Almighty. Again a rather peaceful and bucolic scene might be witnessed in the



Ruins after the Great Fire. Clark St., North from Washington

midst of the havoc, for instance, a family, having saved little or nothing besides the coffee pot and the necessary ingredients, settling down in the open to enjoy the popular beverage cooked over a heap of glowing embers in the street.

Numbers, however, sought comfort in far more stimulating beverages than coffee during that grewsome night. The lower elements were afforded the most ample opportunities to indulge their taste for liquor. Saloons were recklessly plundered, casks of whisky and wine were rolled out in the street, the heads were knocked out, and men and boys crowded about, draining the contents till they staggered and fell, many



The Great Fire. Map of the Burned District

perishing where they lay when the flames reached them. Others succeeded in crawling out of harm's way, and dropped into sobering sleep in yards and alleys.

When the fire threatened the jail, the prisoners were set free. These immediately joined the criminals at large in a riot of loot and plunder. Without the slightest hesitation they would enter the merchant's shops, hurl articles of value to their accomplices at the door, and depart with their plunder, with the air of having saved their own property, not a hand being raised to prevent their escape through the crowds. However great the losses by theft that night, they were probably insignificant as compared with the amount of goods and chattels destroyed in the streets or consumed by the flames. Many purposely destroyed their own property rather than have it stolen or burned.

With the aid of draymen many succeeded in having their goods hauled to places of safety far from the burning area, but these men, who were often unscrupulous, charged a rate of cartage amounting

to a high percentage of the actual value of the goods saved. Thus, a hundred dollars might be demanded for hauling a load of goods only a few blocks. Early in the evening the bridges leading to the north side became so crowded with people and vehicles that many were severely injured in the crush. Many businessmen on the south side had goods worth millions brought to the river bank, where loads upon loads of valuable merchandise was destroyed by fire before morning.

At 3 o'clock in the morning, the fire had practically finished its triumphal march through the business district, leaving nothing but smoking ruins behind, and prepared to cross the river to the north side, having previously sent scouts ahead in the form of sparks and firebrands hurled across by the wind. It was also feared that the flames would again be directed toward the west side, the main portion of which was still intact, but the danger was averted by a systematic protection of the buildings nearest the river. The people of the north side, many of whom had retired for the night, were in turn, like the inhabitants of the west and south sides, routed out of bed and forced too flee for their lives. It was high time they did, for the flames were already hovering over their roofs. The gas plant soon caught fire and was shattered by a tremendous explosion, instantly followed by the extinction of the street lamps, leaving the district in darkness but for the reflection from the blazing buildings to the south. In a short time the flames reached the water works at the foot of Chicago avenue, nearly a mile north of the river. With that, the fire department was completely disarmed, all hope of resistance was gone, and the phalanxes of the fiery conqueror marched on undeterred.

Here was repetition of the scenes already enacted on the south side, while the terrorstricken inhabitants were engaged in precipitous flight for safety. Thousands took refuge westward across the north branch of the river, while other thousands fled to the lake front. The latter soon discovered their mistake. As the fire approached, they were enveloped in dense clouds of smoke and exposed to a shower of sparks and flying embers that ignited the personal property deposited there. The heat grew more suffocating for every passing minute and finally became unendurable, forcing those who had not fled north along the lake front to wade into the water for protection and remain there until they could be taken away in boats. The flames spared not even the city of the dead. The Catholic cemetery near Lincoln Park was ravaged, charred wooden crosses and cracked marble shafts bearing evidence of the destruction wrought.

Not until 4 o'clock on Monday afternoon had the fire run its course. Its spread southward had been checked by volunteer fire fighters, assisted by a military troop in command of General Philip Sheridan. On the north side, however, the fire raged as long as any

houses remained. At Fullerton avenue, where lay a stretch of open prairie, the flames died out at last.

A host of people were left homeless, penniless, without clothes or shelter against the cold autumn night. Many camped on the prairies outside the city or among the mounds of the dead in the cemeteries, not a few doubtless heartbroken, and wishing that they too were asleep under the sod. Their future seemed as black and cheerless as the area strewn with the ruins of the Chicago of yesterday.



Ruins after the Great Fire. Honore Block, N.-W. Corner of Adams and Dearborn Streets

The one bright spot in the desolate picture was the energetic assistance and succor furnished by city authorities and the people of the intact portion of the city. Churches, schoolhouses, station-houses and other public buildings were thrown open and turned into asylums for the distressed, while tents were furnished to thousands of other sufferers. The railways offered free transportation to all who desired to seek shelter with relatives and friends elsewhere or simply wanted to leave the stricken city for anywhere. It is claimed that about 15,000 people availed themselves of the opportunity and left on outgoing trains the same day.

While the fire still raged on the north side, the mayor, jointly with the department chiefs of the city administration, issued a proclamation to the effect that the City of Chicago assumed the liability for all expenses incurred in rendering aid to the fire sufferers, and promised protection for all exposed personal property. As soon as the disaster had been telegraphed abroad, money and supplies began to pour in from all parts of the country, and later from almost every part of the civilized world. The first outside aid was in the form of provisions, sent from Indianapolis, reaching Chicago by express at 3 o'clock Tuesday afternoon. This was followed in a few hours by another train from St. Louis, bringing clothing and provisions, and a delegation of citizens bearing this greeting: "Brethren, be of good cheer! All that we have is at your disposal until you get on your feet again. We have come to stay and help you." Similar messages were received from other points. Troops were called in from Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, to assist a volunteer corps in patrolling the burned district, and the better to preserve order General Sheridan placed the city under

military rule. The Chicago Relief and Aid Society was organized and took charge of the distribution of incoming supplies. On Nov. 7th, one month after the fire, there had been subscribed for the relief fund $3,500,000, $2,050,000 of which had been paid in. Sixty thousand people were then receiving assistance.

Shortly after the fire, the state legislature was called in extra session and appropriated a generous sum to the relief work. The relief funds in cash already amounted to $4,820,148.16, out of which $973,897.80 had been contributed from foreign countries. The total value of all funds and supplies aggregated almost seven millions of dollars.

To the figures given in the foregoing, the following are subjoined to show the full extent of the disaster. Among the buildings destroyed were 69 church edifices and convents, 32 hotels, 29 bank buildings, 15 academies and seminaries, 11 public schools, 10 theaters and other places of amusement, 9 offices of daily newspapers, 7 orphan asylums, 5 hospitals, 5 telegraph offices, 5 grain elevators, 3 railway stations, besides the courthouse, the customhouse, the postoffice, the board of trade building, the gas plant and the water works.

The fire loss was estimated at $190,000,000, including $50,000,000 on buildings and $140,000,000 on other property. If the loss by shrinkage in realty values and reduced incomes be included, the sum total would pass $200,000,000. All city property, real and personal, was valued at $620,000,000 just before the fire. Thus about one-third of this had been wiped out. The loss was partly covered by insurance totaling $96,533,721, of which $6,000,000 had been written by foreign companies. The insurance paid amounted to only $44,000,000, owing principally to the fact that not less than 57 fire insurance companies were bankrupted by the enormous losses sustained.

The exact loss of life was never determined, the approximate number of people who perished being set at three hundred.

The setback given to the commercial development of the city was of short duration. Before winter set in, many businessmen were established in temporary quarters in various parts of the city. The homeless, who could not be otherwise provided for, were sheltered in temporary wooden barracks. Free coal, free provisions and free lumber was distributed to the most unfortunate victims. Within a year a large portion of the burned district had been rebuilt at a total cost of $40,500,000, while the increase in the volume of business and manufactures had surpassed all previous records. With remarkable energy, equalled nowhere, the work was pursued night and day. Wages were high and laborers were plentiful. In two years the population was increased by 68,419.

Three years after the fire, almost every trace of the catastrophe

had been erased. A remarkable chapter in the annals of Chicago closed with the great fire of 1871, and another, equally wonderful, opened with the rebuilding of the city.

Later Development of Chicago

During the thirty-six years that have elapsed since the great fire, Chicago has developed into one of the great cities of the world, with the evil as well as the good features of a metropolis. Following are a few of the important facts in its latter history.



Lincoln Monument—Lincoln Park

Less than three years after the fire the city was again threatened with destruction. July 14, 1874, another extensive conflagration destroyed property valued at four million dollars before the flames could be subdued.

As has been shown, Chicago early attained importance as a business center and shipping port. Its industrial phase next added new activity, giving the city high rank as an industrial community. Besides the great stock yards and slaughter houses, immense steel mills, farm implement factories and other similar establishments were founded. The year 1880 marks a new epoch in the industrial history of Chicago. Then the Pullman Palace Car Company, organized in 1867, founded the town of Pullman, twelve miles south of the heart of Chicago. The new community, comprising the extensive car factories and cottages for its thousands of workmen and their families, grew rapidly and soon became, in many respects, a model town.

Workmen from all parts of the civilized world flocked into Chicago, making it pre-eminently a city of labor and of laborers. Here, as elsewhere in industrial communities, the war between capital and labor was soon raging. The fight waxed all the more fierce on the labor side, owing to the fact that the labor movement had been taken in charge by German socialists in the early seventies, a few years after the fire, they having emigrated from their native land on account of the iron rule of Bismarck. Thus Chicago soon became famous for her labor organizations and their incessant struggle for what they held to be their rights. Shorter hours, increased wages and legislation favoring the working classes were the demands made by the socialists and supported by them on the rostrum and in the press. The ballot, they declared, was their most powerful ally.

Unfortunately, this agitation soon sunk to the level of anarchistic propaganda. In the late seventies and the early eighties there arrived from Europe a number persons intimate with the leaders and the principles of anarchy and nihilism, and these succeeded in acquiring a controlling influence over the labor organizations. These held the ballot to be altogether too ineffectual a weapon with which to fight the capitalists and their hirelings, the civic authorities as well as the unorganized workingmen being classed with the latter. Guns, revolvers, bombs, these were the great emancipators of the workers, the means of overturning the effete social order of the present.

The first great strike in Chicago occurred in 1877, when the railway employees struck work here as in Baltimore, Pittsburg and other eastern centers. The dragon's teeth sown by anarchy gave its harvest on July 25th, in the form of a skirmish between the strikers and the police, the former being worsted in the fight. This had a cooling effect on the hotheaded leaders, causing all violence to subside and gradually bringing the strike to a close.

The anarchistic propaganda, however, being carried on unchecked, brought about conspiracies among labor organizations, designed to make short shrift with the capitalistic class and every other form of

opposition in the next conflict. The German anarchist papers in particular openly urged force and bloodshed. In February, 1886, an event occurred which caused renewed activity in the anarchistic camp. At the great McCormick Harvester Works a strike of the workmen was promptly met by a lockout. When the strikers found that their former employers had arranged to supplant them with non-union workers, their rage knew no bounds. Two organizations, the Metal Workers Union and the Carpenters Union No. 1, agreed to arm themselves with guns, revolvers, and bombs in order to prevent the strike breakers from



The Ottawa Indian Monument– Lincoln Park

taking their places. For reasons unknown, the fight never took place, and on March 1st the new men, protected by a squad of police, went to work unmolested. Before and after noon of the same day, however, fighting occurred between the strikers and the police guarding the factories, resulting in the arrest of several strikers and the discovery of bombs and other weapons in their possession.

It was believed that the anarchists, after having made such a lame showing, would take a new tack, but this hope proved illusive. They operated in secret and were biding their time. The crisis came on May 1st, when from 40,000 to 50,000 workmen in various trades struck for an eight hour day. The McCormick works were now running almost full force, thanks to the strike breakers or so-called scabs. In

the vicinity of the factory was held a mass meeting attended by about 8,000 strikers, 3,000 of whom were Germans and an equal number Bohemians belonging to the Lumber Shovers Union. August Spies, the editor of the radical "Arbeiter Zeitung," and one of the foremost leaders of the anarchists, climbed into a dray and made a speech to the crowd, characterizing capitalists and employers as oppressors and vampires, and the laborers as their slaves. His words struck fire in the minds of the assemblage, and the speaker had scarcely finished when a mass of strikers stormed in the direction of the factory, breaking the windows of the gatekeeper's house and maltreating the workmen first encountered. The crowd soon forced its way into the factory yards, with the evident purpose of wreaking bloody vengeance on the "scabs" and destroying the works. This plan was defeated by the police who hurried to the scene and, after a brief but sharp encounter, cleared the grounds and put the strikers to flight. Although firearms and missiles were freely used, no one was killed. The leaders of the raid were arrested the same day.

At this sorry outcome of the onslaught on the powers that be, the anarchists were still more enraged, and swore terrible vengeance. Spies hurried to his editorial room and wrote a circular in English and German, urging the strikers to arm themselves and take remorseless revenge upon the police. Immediately thereupon, he published in his paper an incendiary article, relating to the disturbance his words had caused. In this he charged that four strikers had been shot to death by the police, despite the fact that not a man had been seriously wounded.

In the afternoon of May 3rd, representatives of all the anarchist organizations in the city held a secret meeting, at which it was resolved that at the next encounter with the authorities the anarchists at a given signal would simultaneously blow up the police stations with dynamite and shoot all surviving policemen. Then they would march to the heart of the city, where the principal struggle was to take place. The main buildings were to be burned, the jails stormed and the prisoners set free, to make common cause with the revolutionists. In order to arouse the populace to a high spirit of vengeance against the police a mass meeting was called at Haymarket Square, at Desplaines and Randolph streets, the following evening. The anarchist delegates separated after agreeing that the word "Ruhe" (peace) inserted in the "Letter Box" in the columns of the "Arbeiter-Zeitung" was to be the signal for a general uprising.

During Tuesday, May 4th, a number of anarchists were busily at work manufacturing bombs of every description, while others distributed circulars announcing the great mass meeting. In the evening "Zeitung" the ominous word appeared, advising every anarchist in the city that the hour of vengeance had come. The fact that the city had

a powerful militia at its disposal and that well disciplined United States troops were at hand, ready to step in at once, should the Chicago police be unable to cope with their antagonists, evidently had not entered the minds of the revolutionists.

The Haymarket Tragedy

It was the evening of May 4th, a memorable date in the history of Chicago. At 8 o'clock about 3,000 people had gathered at the appointed place. Editor Spies and the other anarchist agitators were promptly on hand. A few moments later, Spies mounted the speaker's stand and entered upon a severe criticism of the McCormick Company's treatment of the strikers. This, the speaker maintained, ought to teach the workingmen to arm for their own protection against the capitalists and their hirelings. The next speaker was Albert R. Parsons, editor of the American anarchist paper, "The Alarm." His speech was also of an inflammable character. Next in order came Samuel Fielden, a teamster, whose untutored eloquence seemed to impress the crowd more strongly than the polished harangues of his predecessors. "The advance guard skirmish with the capitalists forces has taken place; the main battle is yet to be fought," said he.

Fearing an outbreak, the authorities had detailed a force of 176 policemen to the Desplaines street police station, under command of Inspector John Bonfield. When he learned through detectives at the meeting that the speakers were growing extremely bold in their expressions, and the masses showed signs of threatening disorder, he marched his forces to the square. From his elevated position in a dray wagon, Fielden saw the police approaching and shouted:

"The bloodhounds are upon us! Do you duty! I will do mine."

A minute later, the front line of police halted a few feet from the wagon, and Police Captain Ward stepped up, saying:

"In the name of the people of the state, I order you to disperse peaceably at once."

Fielden, who had meanwhile jumped from the wagon, shouted aloud: "We are peaceable!" This seemed the secret signal of attack (compare the watchword, "Ruhe"), for the next instant an object resembling a lighted cigar was hurled through the air and fell between the lines of the second platoon of police. One second more, and the impact of an explosion shook the air far around. Numbers of policemen were hurled in all directions, some dangerously, others slightly injured.

The exploding bomb, thrown by some anarchist, was taken as a signal for general fighting with revolvers and pistols between the revolutionists and the police. In a moment the latter force had regained its presence of mind and made a concerted sortie upon the

masses, which, though armed, were unable to withstand the attack, and were soon dispersed.

The three agitators were among the first to seek safety in flight. The projected slaughter at Haymarket Square, the destruction of the police stations, and the incendiary raid of the business district had been set at naught. The anarchists, comparatively few and undoubtedly cowardly as they were, had lost their first and, one may well hope, last battle in Chicago.

The bloodshed at this encounter was considerable. One policeman fell dead and seven others were fatally wounded. Besides these, sixty-seven of the police were injured more or less seriously in the affray. A number of the rioters were shot and seriously wounded by the police. The number who died from their injuries never became known, for their relatives, prompted by fear or shame, refused to make known their exact loss. It leaked out, nevertheless, that several anarchists were secretly buried at night shortly after the riot. Of the wounded policemen two died May 6th, one May 8th, one May 14th, one May 16th, and the seventh and last on June 13, 1888.

A great number of suspects were at once taken into custody, among others almost the entire working force of the "Arbeiter-Zeitung." Other arrests were made later at short intervals. The police investigations soon revealed the fact that the principal conspirators, besides Spies, Parsons and Fielden, were Adolph Fischer, foreman of the printing office, Michael Schwab, assistant editor, Balthasar Rau, an agent of the paper, Louis Lingg, a carpenter, George Engel, a painter, Oscar W. Neebe, a yeast dealer, and others. Lingg was found to be the most energetic manufacturer of bombs, and the one causing the destruction on Haymarket Square was doubtless his handiwork. The man who hurled it at the police platoon was Rudolph Schnaubelt, who was also arrested but again set free on the strength of an impression made on the police authorities that he was innocent. Schnaubelt lost no time in leaving Chicago for parts unknown. Thus it happened that the actual perpetrator of the crime escaped trial and punishment, while most of the conspirators who had planned the foul deed paid the penalty with their lives.

Thanks to the thorough work of the police, a mass of evidence against the prisoners was gathered, and on May 17th they were indicted by the grand jury. The trial was begun June 21st, and the selection of a trial jury consumed four weeks, the actual trial of the prisoners opening July 15th, and lasting until the 19th, when the case went to the jury. The following day they brought in a verdict of guilty and fixed the penalty at death on the gallows for Spies, Schwab, Fielden, Parsons, Fischer, Engel and Lingg as the instigators of the Haymarket bloodshed, and fifteen years' imprisonment for Neebe for complicity in

the crime. The counsel for the defense immediately asked for a new trial, but on Oct. 7th the motion was denied. The only recourse was an appeal to the state supreme court. The appeal was taken in March, 1887, and on Sept. 14th this tribunal struck dismay to the hearts of the anarchists and their sympathizers by sustaining the verdict of the lower court. But even then the culprits clung to a faint hope, and took an appeal to the court of last resort, the Supreme Court at Washington.



The Schiller Monument—Lincoln Park

The appeal was taken up for consideration Oct. 27th, resulting on the second of November in a decree sustaining the former verdict. Parsons, Engel, Fischer and Lingg, still headstrong, then petitioned Richard J. Oglesby, governor of Illinois, for unconditional pardon, while Spies, Fielden and Schwab made the more humble request that the death penalty be commuted to life imprisonment. The governor's answer, given Nov. 10th, granted the petition of Fielden and Schwab but denied the request of the other four.

Before the governor's reply came, Lingg seemed to have a premonition that all hope was gone. To go to the gallows and submit to

the authority of law and social order was revolting to this sworn enemy of the law, and he found another way. In some mysterious way he had a bomb, consisting of a piece of loaded gaspipe, smuggled into his cell by a friend, and on the morning of Nov. 10th, he placed this in his mouth, lay down on his bed and lit the fuse with a candle. The explosion tore away half of the face. At 2.45 o'clock in the afternoon of the same day death relieved him from his sufferings.

The remaining four were executed the following day, Nov. 11th,



Newberry Library

at the county jail. They were unrepentant to the last, giving vent to anarchistic sentiments on the very scaffold. On the same day, Fielden and Schwab were committed to the penitentiary at Joliet.

The general insurrection threatened by the culprits as a sequel to the execution failed to materialize. Not a sign of a revolutionary movement could be discerned. The energy and promptness with which the authorities had acted deprived the lawless league of all inclination toward a renewal of violence, and in a short time the anarchist propaganda had been silenced in Chicago. The labor movement was again directed into its normal course.

After six years, Fielden, Schwab and Neebe were pardoned out of prison on June 26th, 1893. Since that time they have not been known to plan any new social order to be brought about by means of bombs and bloodshed.

In the same year that witnessed the anarchist uprising, a strike was declared on November 7th among the packinghouse workers in Chicago. Two regiments of the national guards were ordered out to preserve order. No disturbances occurred and the troops were with-

drawn on the 15th of the same month. The next great strike was enacted April 7th, 1890, when seven thousand carpenters threw down their tools to enforce their demand for an eight hour day. Four years later there came a new conflict between capital and labor, when, on the 12th of April, 1894, a general lockout of workmen in all the building trades was declared, throwing 10,000 workmen out of employment. The 11th of May following, 2,000 employees of the Pullman Car Company went on strike, and to make this more effective all other labor organizations were called upon, June 28th, to boycott all railway lines using Pullman cars.

This move resulted in violence, for the quelling of which President Cleveland ordered out government troops. This was done July 3rd. Two days later, Governor Altgeld demanded the withdrawal of the troops on the ground that their presence was not needed. The President replied to this on July 8th by declaring Chicago under martial law. This action, together with that of the federal grand jury, indicting Eugene V. Debs, President of the American Railway Union, for declaring a boycott interfering with the United States mail service, hastened the settlement of the difficulties. On July 19th both the strike and the boycott were declared off, and quiet was restored. Since that time a number of strikes have occurred in Chicago, resulting favorably to one side or the other, but none has been attended by disorder necessitating military interference.

Facts and Figures of the Chicago of To-day

In the course of time, the city has grown rapidly to the north, south and west, while new suburbs have sprung up on every hand, in turn merging with the metropolis according as their interests dictated. Not less than sixteen annexations have thus been effected. The largest addition of territory was acquired in 1889, when the towns of Lake View, Hyde Park, Lake, Jefferson and part of Cicero were absorbed. Since then considerable areas have been added from time to time, bringing the total area of the city of Chicago up to 190.6 square miles.

The Chicago River divides the city into three sections known as the south side, the west side and the north side. These sections are connected by means of 60 bridges, mostly of the swinging type, which are gradually being replaced by the more modern bascule bridges.

The total street mileage is 3,946. The longest street is Western avenue, extending 22 miles, and Halsted street extends nearly the same distance north and south. The city has fifteen parks, the largest being Lincoln, Humboldt, Garfield, Douglas, Washington and Jackson parks. These are connected by wide and attractive boulevards and thus form as extensive and fine a park system as any city can boast of. The entire system, including boulevards, has an area of about 3,300

acres, the latter having a total length of 48 miles. Under the streets extends a system of sewers measuring about 1,600 miles in length. The city's water mains have a combined length of approximately 2,000 miles. By means of enormous pumps the water is forced into the city from a series of cribs located far out in the lake, through water tunnels running under the lake and underground a total distance of 38 miles, and emptying into an extensive network of watermains and smaller pipes. The pumping stations have a combined capacity of 529,500,000 gallons daily. The lighting system is equally extensive. Numberless gas mains and electric conduits form an underground mesh extending



Franklin Monument Lincoln Park

far out to the most distant suburbs. There were in 1905 37,000 gas and electric street lamps.

The preservation of law and order is entrusted to a police force of 3,300 men, distributed among 45 police stations. The fire department comprises 1,200 men, divided into 92 larger and 27 smaller companies. About 15,000 people are variously employed in the service of the city.

From Chicago radiate 20 lines of railroad, several of which extend to the Atlantic and Pacific coasts, Lake Superior, and the Gulf of Mexico. There are six great railway terminals having a system of common track connections. The incoming and outgoing trains, through and suburban, number 1,600 per day and carry, on a rough estimate, several hundred thousand passengers.

The street railway system is one of the most extensive in the world, comprising about 120 separate lines with a total of 1,000 miles of track. Including the suburban and elevated system, the trackage is 1,360 miles.

The principal motive power is electricity. The daily average number of street car passengers exceeds half a million, but the full capacity of the system is claimed to be one million and a half. Equally important as a system of passenger transportation are the four elevated railway lines, with their branches. One of these, the Northwestern Elevated, has four tracks, runs express as well as local trains, and is claimed to have the only complete traction system of the kind. The elevated railroads have a combined trackage of about 150 miles. In 1905 the daily average number of passengers on surface and elevated lines was 1,354,450.

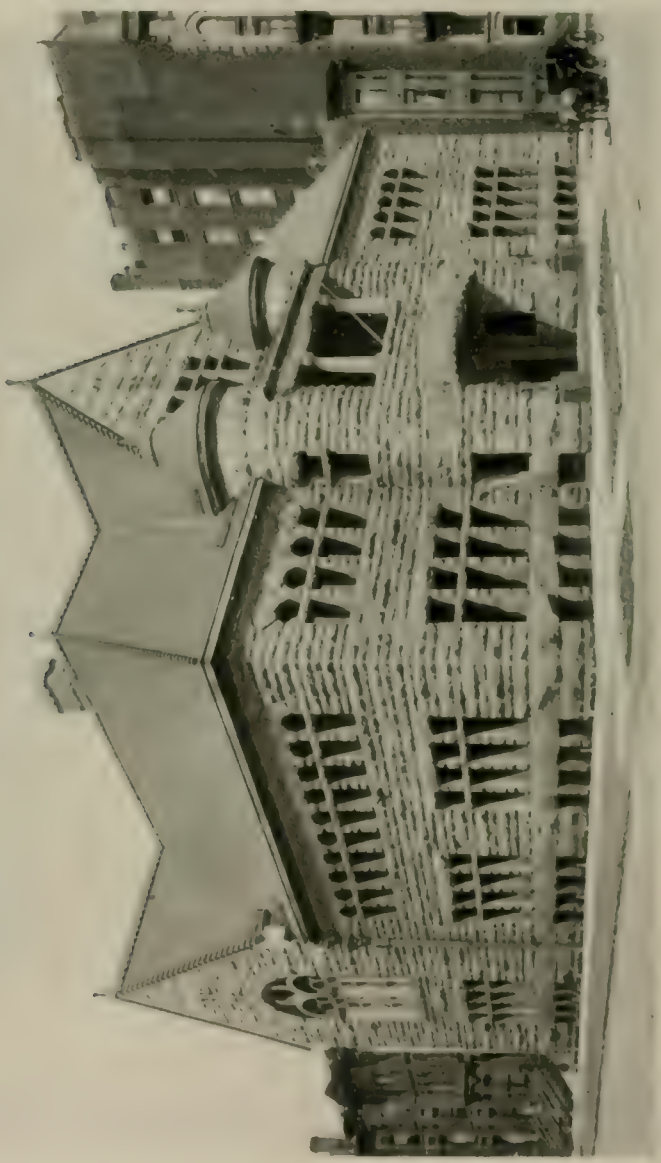
Chicago has 235 large and a great number of small hotels, capable of accommodating 200,000 guests. There are over 1,000 restaurants and cafés, with a daily capacity of several hundred thousand guests. Many of the hotels are palatial, famous at home and abroad for the comfort and luxury they afford. From twenty to thirty thousand people daily visit the city's theaters, which are 40 in number. Besides these public entertainment is furnished at a number of other places of amusement. In the history of Chicago theaters there must be recorded that appalling catastrophe, the fire in the newly built Iroquois Theater, at Randolph st., on the 30th day of December, 1903, the flames starting in the scenery and sweeping out over the auditorium, throwing the audience into a panic, and causing the death of 588 persons by burning, crushing and suffocation.

There are fifty clubs of different kinds, many of which having their own club houses. The sick are being cared for in not less than 68 hospitals. To these must be added fifty other charitable institutions, such as asylums and homes for the feeble-minded, the crippled and the aged. For the care of the poor and indigent there are eighteen large and a number of smaller benevolent associations. Sick benefit societies and others for mutual assistance in emergencies are too numerous to be counted, as are also the organizations for social pleasure.

The educational system of Chicago is world-renowned, and rightly so. The number of public schools in 1906 was 250, with 5,900 teachers and 287,000 pupils. Higher courses of study are pursued in fifteen high schools. For the education of teachers there is a normal school, besides two training schools. The schools founded by religious denominations and public spirited individuals number twenty-two. Principal among these are the Armour Institute and the Lewis Institute, both technological schools of a high order. The well-known Chicago Musical College leads a number of excellent musical schools conducted here. Higher education is represented by two great universities, the Northwestern University of Evanston and the University of Chicago.

Libraries and museums are not lacking. Of the former there are thirteen, the largest being the Chicago Public Library, which on June

1, 1906, contained 323,610 volumes, the Newberry Library, with 218,525 books and pamphlets on Oct. 1, 1906, and the John Crerar Library, with 194,000 volumes and 50,000 pamphlets on Oct. 1, 1906. The museums



Chicago Historical Society Museum and Library

are, the Academy of Sciences, containing natural history collections, the museum of the Chicago Historical Society, with a large historical collection pertaining to the early history of the city, the Field Colum

bian Museum, with extensive ethnological collections, and the Chicago Art Institute, comprising a considerable collection of paintings, sculptures and art objects from the remotest to the most recent times. The Art Institute includes a school of art with a large annual attendance.

The Chicago Historical Society was founded in 1856 for the purpose of collecting and preserving the materials of history and to spread historical information concerning the Mississippi valley. The great fire of 1871 destroyed the priceless collection of 100,000 volumes and manuscripts, among them being the original draft of the emancipation proclamation by Abraham Lincoln. The nucleus of a new collection was consumed in 1874. A third collection was started which now numbers more than 140,000 volumes, manuscripts and pamphlets. Among the manuscripts are the James Madison papers, James Wilkinson papers, Ninian Edwards papers and Pierre Menard papers. There are letters in the handwriting of Joliet, Allouez, Tonti, Frontenac and La Salle. The collections comprise also many oil paintings, bronzes and antiquities. A fire-proof granite building was erected 1892-6 at Dearborn ave. and Ontario st., at a cost of $190,000. Historical lectures are maintained each winter. Some forty papers on subjects presented at its meetings have been published, besides which four large volumes of historical collections have been issued. The library and museum are open daily to visitors.

Almost every church denomination in the United States is represented in Chicago. The number of church edifices is about 800. In this connection may be added that there are forty cemeteries, a number of which are maintained by church organizations.

About 600 newspapers and periodicals are published in Chicago, a large number being in foreign languages. The leading daily newspapers are, "The Chicago Daily Tribune," "The Chicago Record-Herald," "The Inter Ocean," "The Chicago Daily News," and "The Chicago American." Several of these are issued in enormous editions.

The book publishing business has likewise attained gigantic proportions. A great number of houses are annually putting out immense editions of original and reprinted works of every description. One result of this is a high development of the publisher's art and all its auxiliary branches.

The mail service of the city is excellent. At the central post office and the 47 district stations, 2,600 persons are employed in handling the enormous mass of incoming and outgoing mail. The collection of mail from letter and parcel boxes and the distribution of incoming mail matter requires the service of 1,650 collectors and carriers. The free delivery system prevails. In addition to the district post offices there are 246 sub-stations distributed throughout the city for the

accommodation of the public in the matter of stamps, postals cards, money orders and the registry of letters. The volume of the Chicago postal business is shown by these figures: during the year ending June 30, 1906, 1,139,084,480 pieces of mail were handled, the total weight being 126,542,509 pounds. The total income for the department for the same year was $12,885,149.

The building and real estate interests are extremely active. During 1905, not less than 8,442 buildings were erected at a total cost of $63,970,950. The dealings in realty are equally brisk. The year 1902



The Grant Monument—Lincoln Park

showed 18,063 real estate transfers aggregating $111,441,112 in value, those figures having since been materially increased.

The taxable value of realty in Chicago in 1905 was estimated at $295,514,443 and that of personal property at $112,477,182, making a total valuation of $407,991,625. The tax levy was $27,959,908.

Enormous progress in manufactures and varied industries has been made since the great fire. In 1900 Chicago had within its limits 19,203 manufacturing establishments with a combined capitalization of $534,000,689. These employed 262,621 persons, who were paid $131,065,337. The cost of materials used amounted to $538,401,562 and that of the finished product to $888,945,311. For comparison, the value of manufactured products in the entire state in 1905 was $955,036,277, and in Chicago alone about $500,000,000, or more than half of the total.

The greatest of Chicago industries is the slaughtering and packing industry. During the year named, it embraced thirty-eight packing plants, with a capital of $67,137,569, 25,345 workers, with wages aggre

gating $12,875,676, a consumption of live stock and other materials amounting to $218,241,331 and an output valued at $256,527,949, this latter sum representing 35.6 per cent. of the product of the entire packing industry of the country.

Second in order of importance is the foundry and machine manufacturing industry, represented by 441 separate establishments, capitalized at $36,356,168, employing 20,641 workers, paying $11,264,544 in wages, consuming $20,070,516 worth of raw material and showing an annual production valued at $44,561,071.

The manufacturing of agricultural implements stands third, with six plants, a capitalization of $36,025,355, 10,245 workers, and an annual expenditure of $5,180,958 for labor. The materials used cost $10,842,299 and the finished products sold at $24,848,649.

The tailoring industry ranked fourth with 874 shops, $12,991,669 of capital involved, 13,855 workers employed, $5,551,561 in wages, and a production of $36,094,310, at a cost of $17,547,665.

In the fifth place comes the iron and steel industry, with nine plants, a total capital of $24,271,764, 6,112 workers, $4,329,342 paid in wages, $22,448,511 as the cost of production and an output estimated at $31,461,174.

Other large industries are, the building of railway coaches and street cars, with an annual output of $19,108,085, printing and binding, with $18,536,364, and brewing and distilling, with $14,956,865 as the value of their respective output.

Chicago is the headquarters for the grain market of the great West. There are in the city twenty-six immense grain elevators with a total capacity of 32,550,000 bushels. The grain market shows no steady increase but fluctuates according to the crops and other trade conditions dependent thereon. For instance, in 1886, 192,778,757 bushels of grain was inspected here, in 1890, 290,251,109 bushels, in 1895, 265,737,585 bushels, in 1900, 462,758,523 bushels, in 1902, 287,337,599 bushels, in 1903, 237,532,024 bushels, and in 1905, 260,675,693 bushels.

Although not a seaport, Chicago is the greatest shipping point in the United States, a fact not generally known. Its shipping will doubtless acquire still greater proportions when the new waterways in process of construction shall be completed, giving access to the Mississippi and the Gulf. During 1897, 9,156 vessels, with a combined tonnage of 7,209,444, entered, and 9,201 vessels, with a tonnage of 7,185,324, left this port. In 1903, 7,456 vessels, with a combined capacity of 7,603,278 tons cleared out of the Chicago port, and in 1905 the arrivals and clearances were, respectively, 6,949 vessels, of 7,218,641 tons, and 7,014 vessels, of 7,281,259 tons. The decrease in shipping in later years is mainly chargeable to the obstructed condition of the river.

These figures regarding Chicago's grain trade and shipping show

the city to be one of the foremost commercial centers of the country. Some additional figures will serve to substantiate the statement. The value of goods sold by Chicago's wholesale and jobbing houses during 1903 was more than $1,058,000,000. This includes dry goods and carpets, $162,500,000, groceries, $115,500,000, iron and steel wares, $70,500,000, lumber, $70,500,000, men's ready-made clothing, $66,000,000, goods sold through mail order houses, $55,000,000, boots and shoes, $48,000,000, coal, $47,000,000, diamonds and jewelry, $40,000,000, metal wares, $34,000,000, furniture, $34,000,000, books and music, $20,500,000, paper, $20,000,000, leather, $17,500,000, tobacco and cigars, $16,500,000, medicines and chemicals, $16,000,000, musical instruments, $15,500,000, hats and caps, $15,000,000, furs, $15,000,000, women's clothing, $12,500,000, baskets and wickerwork, $12,000,000, millinery, $11,000,000, china and glassware, $11,000,000, wool, $10,000,000, etc.

During the last-named year the following packing house products were shipped from Chicago: cured meats, 580,282,643 pounds; preserved meats, 1,835,035 pounds; dressed meats, 1,252,233,792 pounds, tallow, 373,000,959 pounds; beef, 82,010 barrels; pork, 175,795 barrels.

Farm products were received and shipped as follows: cheese, received, 82,129,852 pounds, shipped, 57,277,361 pounds; butter, received, 232,031,484 pounds, shipped 197,620,859 pounds; eggs, received, 3,279,248 cases, shipped, 1,699,302 cases.

During 1902 imports from foreign countries to Chicago reached $18,329,390, duties on same amounting to $9,565,452.96.

In that year Chicago paid internal revenue on spirituous liquors, tobacco, oleomargarine, playing cards, etc., amounting to $8,839,042.06.

It is but natural that a city with so extensive manufacturing and commercial interests should develop a banking business of great magnitude. In June, 1904, the number of banks was 44, with a total capital of $50,875,000 and deposits amounting to $550,068,287. The bank clearings of the year 1902 were $8,395,872,351.59.

The Population of Chicago

In previous pages we have endeavored to show how Chicago grew from an insignificant Indian village to a trading station, from trading station to town, from town to city, and from city to metropolis. The rapidity of this development is best exemplified by figures giving the population by decades, as follows:

Year	Total Pop'n	Year	Total Pop'n
1837	4,179	1870	298,977
1840	4,470	1880	503,185
1850	28,269	1890	1,099,850
1860	112,162	1900	1,698,575

Chicago is a cosmopolitan city, nearly every nation in the world being here represented. More than three-fourths of the inhabitants are foreign born or descendants of foreigners.

According to the school census of 1902, the city had 2,007,695 inhabitants, as follows:

Nationalities	Population.	Nationalities	Population.
German	534,083	Dutch	18,555
Irish	254,914	French Canadian	13,533
Polish	167,383	Hungarian	11,658
Swedish	144,719	Swiss	7,922
Bohemian	109,224	French	7,493
English	72,876	Welsh	4,863
Russian	61,976	Greek	1,493
Norwegian	59,898	Chinese	1,179
British Canadian	48,304	Belgian	1,160
Italian	42,054	Finnish	416
Austrian	29,760	Miscellaneous	3,132
Scotch	28,529		
Danish	25,355	Total	1,651,079

Subtracting this from the grand total of population, 2,007,695, the remainder, 356,580, indicates the number of native born Chicagoans. This, however, includes all descendants of foreign born parents after the first generation, all persons of mixed foreign and native parentage and some 35,000 colored. Should their number in turn be substracted, there would be a very small remainder, denoting the number of Americans in the limited sense of the word.

It may be added that the most recent estimates of Chicago's population vary from 2,049,185, the figures given by the health department, to 2,300,500, the more sanguine estimate based on the city directory.

Northwestern University

May 31, 1850, three clergymen, three lawyers, two businessmen and one physician, all members of the Methodist Church, met in the little office of Attorney Grant Goodrich, on Lake st., near La Salle st., in Chicago, to lay plans for the establishment in that city of a university, under the patronage of that church. At that time there was not one higher institution of learning in Chicago, and in the entire state of Illinois only a few, including McKendree, Illinois, Knox and Shurtleff colleges. At this meeting three committees were appointed, one to procure a charter for the projected institution, a second to enlist the interest and moral support of the various Methodist conferences, and a third to canvass the field for possible pecuniary support.

After three weeks the first named committee had the proposed charter drafted. Northwestern University was the name suggested,

and the charter, being granted by the legislature, was signed by Governor French on Jan. 28, 1851. The first trustees were a number of Chicago residents, besides representatives of the Rock River, Wisconsin, Northern Indiana, Iowa, and Michigan conferences of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

These held their first meeting June 14th the same year and organized for the great task before them. A college was first determined upon, its president to serve as professor of philosophy. Other professors were suggested for the chairs of mathematics, natural sciences, and ancient and modern languages. Another resolution was passed to establish a preparatory department in the city and to purchase ground for the necessary buildings. A lot was purchased at the corner of La Salle and Jackson sts., at a cost of $9,000. September 22, 1852, the



Northwestern University Building, Chicago

board of trustees decided to erect a building accommodating three hundred students, and also appointed a committee to select a site for the proposed college building. Simultaneously, a request was issued to the members of all the aforesaid conferences that no other higher institutions of learning be established, but that all energies be concentrated upon this one, to the end that the university plan might be realized. At this time, also, the board decided to petition the legislature for authority to establish branch preparatory schools in various parts of the Northwest and to merge already existing schools with the proposed university.

The decision to erect a building in Chicago for the preparatory school was never carried out. The ground purchased for that purpose is now occupied by the Illinois Trust and Savings Bank which pays a large rental to the Northwestern University. At a meeting of the trustees June 23, 1853, Dr. Clark T. Hinman was unanimously elected its first president. Being a man of unusual energy, he at once took up the work with great vigor. A plan to raise funds through the sale

of scholarships was inaugurated. These scholarships were of different kinds. One kind was a permanent scholarship of one hundred dollars, entitling the holder, his son, or grandson, to free tuition at the institution for a fixed term. Another form was the transferable scholarship, which could be bought and sold, always entitling its holder to the privileges therein set down. The one hundred dollar scholarship entitled the holder to $500 in tuition, while one quoted at fifty dollars guaranteed $200 in tuition. One-half of the income from scholarships was to be used for paying teachers' salaries, the other half to go to a fund for the purchase of a tract of land, not exceeding 1,200 acres, partly to be used as a site for the university buildings, partly to be sold in lots for the benefit of the building fund. Dr. Hinman filled his grip-sack with scholarship certificates and started out to peddle them among the people. So great was his power of persuasion and such the enthu-



Northwestern University Medical School, Chicago

siasm for the prospective university that he succeeded in disposing of $64,600 worth of scholarships in Chicago and elsewhere in a very short time. In the meantime, other persons raised $37,000 in the same manner.

The committee appointed to select a site recommended the purchase from John H. Foster of a tract of 280 acres situated on the lake shore eleven miles north of the city hall. The price asked was $25,000, one thousand to be paid in cash and the balance in partial payments during the next ten years. The offer was accepted and the deal closed in August, 1853. The following October the trustees offered for sale thirteen acres of this tract at a price of $200 per acre. February 3, 1854, the site of the projected university was named Evanston, in honor of John Evans, M. D., then president of the university corporation. Soon after, other portions of the tract were platted and put on the real estate market.

One Eliza Garrett had founded a Methodist theological seminary called the Garrett Biblical Institute. Upon invitation extended in February, 1854, by the university trustees, this institution was removed to Evanston, where it occupies ground leased from the university. It has always been in close co-operation and has served as the theological department of the university, but is an independent institution financially and in other respects.

In June of the same year, the resources of the university, including real estate, notes and subscriptions, amounted to $281,915, while the liabilities stopped at $32,255.04.

When the board of trustees met in March, 1855, Dr. Hinman, the president of the university, was no more. His successful career in the service of the institution had been ended by death. His last effort had been to increase the fund accumulated by disposing of scholarships to $25,000 and the building fund to $100,000, and if death had not claimed him, he doubtless would have attained the goal. Meanwhile, one build-



Northwestern University—University Hall, Evanston

ing had been erected, being a wooden structure, with suites of rooms for six professors, a chapel, a small museum, meeting halls for several literary societies, and a few student's rooms in the attic.

In this building, the college department of the university began work November 5th of that year. It was a modest beginning: only two teachers and a small group of students. A year later, in 1856, R. S. Foster, D. D., was elected president at a salary of $2,000 per year. At his suggestion, the board proceeded to plan permanent university halls and a library building.

The same year (1856) steps were taken to incorporate the Garrett Biblical Institute and the Rush Medical College in Chicago with the university in order that they might issue diplomas. A girl's school,

the Northwestern Female College, had also been founded in Evanston, but the similarity between its name and that of the university caused the latter so much annoyance that the board requested the girl's seminary to change its corporate name. The request was not granted, the institute continuing under that name and later under the name of Evanston College for Ladies until 1873, when it was absorbed by the university. The proposed absorption of Rush Medical College did not materialize.

In 1857 the board made arrangements to establish a department of law, a preparatory department and a chair of science. At this time



Northwestern University--Orrington Lunt Library, Evanston

the library contained 2,000 volumes, and a museum of natural history had been established. In April, 1859, the proposed law school began its sessions, not, however, as a part of the Northwestern University, but of the old University of Chicago. In June of the same year the college department held its first graduation.

The following year Dr. Foster resigned the presidency. Dr. Erastus O. Haven, who was chosen his successor, declined the position.

During the Civil War, the activity of the new university was greatly impeded, several of its professors and many of its students enrolling in the Union army.

Through wise administration, the university, during this same period, freed itself of debt, whereupon the board devoted all its ener-

gies to the erection of necessary buildings. The first of these was a dormitory. In 1865, the sum of $25,000 was set aside for the erection of a main building to cost, when completed, $100,000. This building, called University Hall, was begun in 1866 and completed in three years.

Charles H. Fowler was called to the presidency in 1866, but resigned the following year before entering upon his duties.

The university now comprised a divinity school, a college and an academic department, and next was added a medical school in the following manner. Since 1859 there had existed in Chicago a medical institution, connected with the Lind (now Lake Forest) University. In 1864, this connection was severed, and the school became independent,



Northwestern University—Fayerweather Hall of Science, Evanston

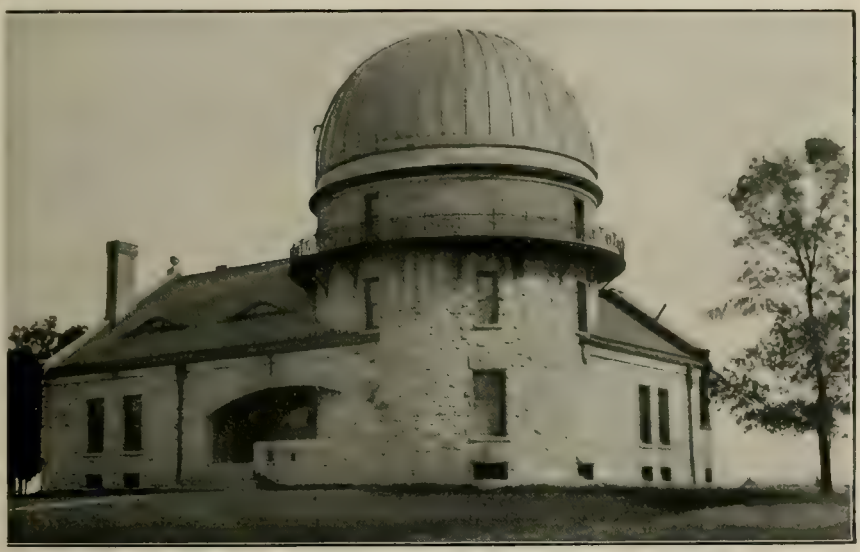
under the name of the Chicago Medical College. This same school in 1869 was merged with the Northwestern University, but retained its name until 1891, when it was changed to the Northwestern University Medical School. This branch of the university occupies buildings specially erected for that purpose at Dearborn street, between 24th and 25th streets, in Chicago, in close proximity to the Wesley, the Mercy and the St. Luke's hospitals, where its students obtain their clinical training.

The same year that the medical school was incorporated with the university, the library received a valuable addition in the form of a collection of 20,000 volumes, purchased for the institution by one Luther Greenleaf. That year also, Erastus O. Haven was a second time called to the president's chair, which he occupied till 1872, when he was

succeeded by the aforesaid Charles H. Fowler, who served with great credit for four years.

The aforesaid school of law also became a department of the Northwestern University in 1873 and then assumed the name of Union College of Law. It continued in connection with both universities until 1886, when it became an independent institution. In 1891, it was reorganized and again became a part of the Northwestern University, being named Northwestern University Law School.

In 1881 Joseph Cummings, senior of the Methodist Episcopal university professors and for many years president of the Wesleyan University, was made the head of the Northwestern. During a period



Northwestern University—Dearborn Observatory, Evanston

of ten years, he filled this responsible position, gaining, meanwhile, the highest respect of teachers and students alike. During his presidency, in 1886, the Illinois College of Pharmacy, just established, was made a part of the university. In 1891 its name was changed to the Northwestern University School of Pharmacy. The Dental School, established in 1887, three years later was added to the university. This department in 1896 absorbed a similar school, the American Dental College.

A donation of $25,000 by James B. Hobbs in 1888 enabled the university to erect the Dearborn Observatory, where the valuable instruments of the old observatory of the same name, located in Chicago, were moved and set up.

After the demise of Dr. Cummings, Dr. Henry Wade Rogers was elected his successor in 1890. He also served for ten years, and like

his predecessor, accomplished much useful work for the institution. During his term of office, in 1891, the Woman's Medical College, connected with the Chicago Hospital for Women and Children, was added; this department, however, was discontinued in 1902 on account of the great expense to the university.

In 1893, the Orrington Lunt Library, an imposing structure, was erected, with funds raised by the platting and sale of 157 acres of land near Wilmette, donated to the university in 1865 by Orrington Lunt, one of its founders. A musical school was established in 1895, and two years later a building was erected for its special use.

In the summer of 1899, Dr. Rogers resigned the presidency. He was succeeded in 1902 by Dr. Edmund James, formerly a member of the faculties of the Universities of Pennsylvania and Chicago. This election was satisfactory to all the friends of the university, who knew Dr. James as a man of erudition and power, of whom much energetic work might be expected. Dr. James, in 1904, accepted the presidency of the University of Illinois, the next choice for president being Dr. Abram W. Harris, who entered upon his duties in July, 1906. Dr. Harris was born and educated in Philadelphia, studied at the Wesleyan University at Middletown, Conn., and in the Universities of Munich and Berlin. President Harris organized for the Department of Agriculture the Bureau of Experiment Stations. He spent some years in teaching and in 1892 was called to the presidency of the Maine State College. Under his direction it expanded and became the University of Maine. In 1901 he resigned to become the Director of the Jacob Tome Institute at Port Dupont, Md., which in five years assumed a high place among secondary schools.

One of the greatest acquisitions of property of the Northwestern University was the purchase in 1901 of the old Tremont hotel building, located at the corner of Dearborn and Lake sts., in Chicago. For this property the institution paid half a million dollars and expended an additional $275,000 for changes and repairs. This structure, known as the Northwestern University Building, now contains the Law school, the Dental school and the school of Pharmacy. In 1907 the university property was valued at $9,034,212, and the current expenditures for educational purposes alone in 1906 amounted to $606,189.

From its college department about 2,000 students have been graduated, from the medical 2,200, from the woman's medical school 559, from the law school 1,800, from the school of pharmacy 1,500, from the dental school 1,600, and from the school of music 300, making a total of 10,000 graduates.

During the year 1905-6 the total number of students attending the university was 3,863.

The University of Chicago

This institution, planned, as it is, on a large scale, has a history dating back to the fifties. Stephen A. Douglas, the renowned statesman, whose home was in Chicago, in 1854 offered to donate ten acres of ground at the southern limits of the city as a site for an institution of learning, on condition that a building costing $100,000 would be erected for this purpose within a specified time. The cornerstone of the future university building was laid July 4, 1857, but the general business depression then prevailing caused a long delay in completing the building. The liberal donor, therefore, granted additional time, but even this did not hurry the work, and finally he concluded to donate the site without any conditions.

Under the name of the Douglas University and with Rev. John C. Burroughs as president, the university was opened in 1858. According to the plan, it was to comprise a preparatory, a college, a law and a theological department. The university was started under the auspices of the Baptist denomination. The law department was added the following year.

The theological department was not added until the following decade. Its early history reads as follows:

At a meeting of Baptists in Chicago in 1860 a society, called the Theological Society of the Northwest, was formed. This was followed by the organization of another society, termed the Baptist Theological Union, which was incorporated Aug. 27th of that year. February 16, 1865, it was granted a charter to found and maintain a theological seminary. A beginning was made the same year, when Rev. N. Colver, D. D., began giving theological instruction to a limited number of students. The following year this instruction was given at the university, where Prof. J. C. C. Clarke was made assistant instructor in theology. These arrangements were merely temporary. The theological department, however, soon was permanently organized, for in 1866 two professors of theology were called, followed, one year later, by a third, whereupon the regular theological department was opened in the fall of 1867. Two years later it was provided with its own building, located at the corner of Rhodes ave. and 34th st. This building, costing $60,000, had accommodations for sixty students, besides the lecture halls. The department, having no permanent funds to draw on, was maintained by private contributions. During the first five years the Baptist Union Theological Seminary, as it was called, was attended by 97 students, of whom 37 were graduated.

During the seventies, the school was on the verge of collapse. The great fire of 1871 made it impossible for its friends to contribute as

generously as before, and the second fire in 1874 still further demoralized it financially. The trustees were forced to look about for another location. One was found in Morgan Park, where the Blue Island Land and Building Company in 1876 donated to the seminary fifty acres of ground and a large brick building, into which the seminary moved in the fall of 1877.

During this decade a Scandinavian department was added to the seminary, designed to equip pastors for the Scandinavian Baptist congregations in America. The history of this department will be told in



The University of Chicago—Across the Campus

a succeeding chapter on educational institutions of the Swedes of Illinois.

Now the seminary owned its own site and its own building, had a faculty and students, but still funds were lacking. Up to this time all efforts at establishing endowments had failed. The trustees were driven to extremes in their efforts to provide the requisite means for its support from year to year. They had to draw continually upon the liberality of the congregations. Evidently, this could not go on indefinitely. The seminary must have permanent funds or cease to exist. A wealthy Chicagoan, E. Nelson Blake, at this juncture came to the assistance of the trustees by donating to the institution the sum of $30,000. With great exertions, they succeeded in raising $70,000 from other sources, thus creating an endowment of $100,000. But this proved inadequate, and an equal amount had to be raised in order to

continue the work of the institution with any degree of success. Toward this amount John D. Rockefeller, the oil magnate, contributed $40,000 and other persons $11,000, whereupon the subscription work was at a standstill for a long period, threatening failure. Finally, after nearly ten years' effort, the second one hundred thousand dollar fund was completed.

Still the requirements of the institution were not fully met. New buildings were needed. The building donated by the land company had up to this time housed every department of the institution, containing, as it did, library, chapel, lecture hall, students' rooms and dining hall. Owing to the cramped quarters, the library, which then contained 25,000 volumes, was partly arranged on shelves along the walls of the lecture hall, partly packed down in boxes and thus inaccessible for use. For the same reason only about half of the students could be housed at the seminary. In 1886 a call was issued with a request for $50,000 to be used partly for the erection of a building containing lecture halls and chapel, partly for a library building. Mr. Rockefeller at once donated $10,000, and promised $10,000 more, provided the remaining $30,000 were raised before May 1, 1887. The condition was successfully met, and the same year the first named building was erected at a cost of $30,000. It was named Blake Hall, in honor of the aforesaid E. Nelson Blake, who had given one-third of the required sum. Later the library building was also erected.

During all these years the inner development of the institution kept pace with its outward progress. The faculty was reinforced time and again and the number of students increased until in 1891-92 it reached nearly 200. During the twenty-five years of its existence, the seminary had graduated several hundred Baptist ministers, of whom a large number had gone to distant lands, while the remainder were scattered throughout the Union. In the new library building the books were systematically arranged and catalogued, available for use by students and teachers.

The Baptist Union Seminary was, as stated, a part of the Douglas University, or, as it was soon called, the University of Chicago. Each had its own administration, and if the finances of the seminary were in a bad way, those of the university were still worse. While the former gradually improved, the latter deteriorated year by year, until the university found itself in a precarious position. In 1885 its mortgages amounted to $320,000, and the board could no longer pay the interest accruing and make payments as they fell due. In these straits the board turned to the Baptist clergymen of Chicago for advice, and the matter was taken up at one of the weekly meetings, held Feb. 8, 1886. President George W. Northrop of the theological seminary then expressed as his opinion that any attempt to maintain the university

would prove futile. Better, then, rent a few rooms, retain the faculty, and look about for a suitable president. Further, the sum of $10,000 ought to be raised annually for three years to defray current expenses, while efforts were made to raise a fund of $250,000. The financial difficulties experienced by the board would, in his opinion, urge well-to-do Baptists to come to the rescue of the institution with liberal donations, so that within ten years an excellent institution might be firmly established. Dr. Thomas W. Goodspeed spoke to the same purport. He recommended that ground be purchased ten miles south of the southern limits of the city, a new charter procured and a new board of regents elected. Now, said he, is the time to act.



The University of Chicago: The Tower Group

After a lengthy discussion those present gave formal expression to the prevailing opinion to the effect that it was practically impossible to raise the funds wherewith to lift the mortgages on the university property, and recommended that a committee of fifteen, appointed the previous year at the educational convention held in Farwell Hall, Chicago, be empowered to plan a new university. The result of these resolutions was the conveyance of the university property to the mortgagees, the Mutual Union Life Insurance Company, the same year and the closing of the university.

Thus the old University of Chicago disappeared after an existence of 29 years of pecuniary embarrassment. Its patrons, however, desired that it be supplanted by a new institution, and this view was shared by prominent Baptists in other parts of the country. During the next two years the project was discussed extensively at meetings and through correspondence. The first move towards realizing the plan

was made in May, 1888, when a society, called the American Baptist Education Society, was organized in Washington, D. C., for the purpose of establishing a college in Chicago—a university they dared not think of—and to raise funds for the support of Baptist institutions of learning in other parts of the country.

These initiative steps were followed with great interest by Mr. Rockefeller, who, as already shown, had contributed to the maintenance of the theological school. He conferred with Professor Willam R. Harper, of Yale University, a man who then already had attained a reputation as a scholar and a man of exceptional executive ability. These two men soon agreed that the Baptist Church should again take up its educational work in Chicago and on an enlarged scale. Mr. Rockefeller declared his willingness to contribute several hundred thousand dollars to such an institution.

In December, 1888, the preliminary work had advanced to a stage, where the plan could be laid before the directors of the American Baptist Education Society. The plans were approved, and they pledged their hearty support in carrying the enterprise forward, instructing their secretary, Rev. Fred T. Gates, to do everything in his power to insure its success. Early the following year Rev. Gates opened negotiations with Mr. Rockefeller, and, after numerous conferences between them, a committee of nine was appointed to draft a plan for the new institution, propose a site, estimate the amount of money required for safeguarding the enterprise financially, and to learn to what extent the support of the Education Society might be counted upon. Prof. Harper was the first man appointed on that committee.

After thorough inquiries this committee submitted a full report on the basis of which the Education Society, at its annual meeting in Boston, in May, 1889, passed a formal resolution to establish the proposed college in Chicago. Immediately, a letter from Mr. Rockefeller was read, wherein he pledged himself to give $600,000 as a fund for the institution, on condition that others contributed $400,000, before June 1, 1890, to be used for the purchase of a site and the erection of buildings. Shortly after this meeting, another one was held in Chicago, attended by fifteen Baptist clergymen, and fifty-five businessmen. At this meeting a college committee of thirty-six members was chosen to issue a call for subscriptions toward the $400,000 fund. Before this meeting was adjourned, one quarter of the amount required had been subscribed by those in attendance.

In January, 1890, Mr. Marshall Field, the Chicago millionaire merchant, announced his willingness to donate a tract of land, situated between Washington and Jackson parks, to the proposed college, provided the conditions set up by Mr. Rockefeller were met. At the meeting of the board of the Education Society in the spring of that

year it was announced that the aggregate sum of $402,000 had been subscribed, books and scientific apparatus valued at $15,000 promised, and that subscriptions were still coming in at the rate of $1,000 a day.

These numerous and generous responses to the call for funds made it clear to the committee that the previous plan to establish a college, which was to be gradually enlarged to a university, had to be abandoned and the institution laid out on university lines from the start. This line of action was subsequently followed. To begin with, ground was purchased adjoining the tract comprising one and one-half blocks, donated by Mr. Field. The Education Society board for the sum of $132,000 bought of Mr. Field an equal tract, making a total of 20 acres.



The University of Chicago—The Walker Museum

bounded on the north and south by 56th and 59th streets and on the east and west by Greenwood and Ellis avenues. Shortly afterwards, the block located farthest north was traded for one bounded by 57th and 58th streets, and Greenwood and Lexington avenues, whereupon still another block was purchased, completing a quadrangle two blocks square in a beautiful and rapidly developing part of the city. A better location for a university would be difficult to find.

In order to prevent possible complications, arising from the fact

that an institution named the University of Chicago had existed before, the directors of that institution met June 14, 1890, and formally authorized the use of that name for the new university. At another meeting September 8th the same board decided to call their institution The Old University of Chicago and to turn over all its books and records to the new university corporation. This was done partly to distinguish the graduates of the old institution, partly to enable them, if they so desired, to be recognized as graduates of the new university.

These and other preliminaries having been disposed of, the new university was chartered September 10, 1890, under the name of the University of Chicago, the incorporators being John D. Rockefeller, E. Nelson Blake, Marshall Field, Francis E. Hinckley, Fred T. Gates, and Thomas W. Goodspeed. The charter stipulated that the university regents should be twenty-one in number, two-thirds, as also the president, to be members of the Baptist Church. On the contrary, church affiliations were to play no part in the selection of professors and instructors.

Scarcely had the institution been incorporated when Mr. Rockefeller, on the 16th of September, made an additional donation of one million dollars, one of the conditions being that the Baptist Union Theological Seminary should be moved from Morgan Park to the university grounds, be made its theological department, and furnished with a special building. These terms were gratefully accepted by the Baptist Theological Union.

At their second meeting, held September 18th, the trustees elected as president of the university Dr. W. R. Harper, who after six months accepted the call and shaped the destinies of this great university with superior energy and ability.

The working plan of the university had already been prepared and submitted to the boards of more than fifty different universities and colleges for approval. Having been thus criticised, the plan was made public Jan. 1, 1891. According to this plan, the work of the institution was to be arranged under the following three heads, the university proper, the university extension work and the university publication work.

The first-named department was to comprise the following subdivisions: (a) Academies, or preparatory departments, the first to be established at Morgan Park and other branch institutions to be either formed from existing schools or erected anew, as opportunity offered; (b) Colleges, as follows, (1) the College of Liberal Arts, with a course leading to the degree of Bachelor of Arts, (2) the College of Science, leading to the degree of Bachelor of Science, (3) the College of Literature, giving also the degree of Bachelor of Science, (4) the College of Practical Arts, with comprehensive courses in practical subjects, lead-

ing to the degree of Bachelor of Science; (c) affiliated colleges, the nature of whose relations to the university was to be determined by the conditions in each individual case; (d) schools, as follows: (1) The Graduate School, to comprise all non-professional post-graduate work, (2) the Divinity School, with the customary theological courses, (3) the Law School, (4) the Medical School, (5) the School of Engineering, (6) the School of Pedagogy, (7) the School of Fine Arts, (8) the School of Music. The two first-named were to be established at once, the remaining six in due order, as financial conditions would permit.

The university extension work was to comprise, (a) regular courses of lectures, to be given in Chicago and elsewhere, according to the best plans for university extension; (b) evening courses in college and university subjects in and outside of Chicago; (c) correspondence courses in college and university subjects for students all over the country; (d) special courses in biblical subjects, studied from the original texts and translations; (e) library extension.

The university publication work was to embrace, (a) university bulletins, catalogues and other official documents; (b) special newspapers, journals and reviews of a scientific nature, written and edited by instructors in the various departments; (c) books written and edited by instructors of the university; (d) collection by exchange of newspapers, journals and reviews, similar to those published; (e) purchase of books and disposal of same to students, professors and to the university library.

In connection herewith the inner organization of the institution in the matter of faculties, officers, the division of the school year, etc., was mapped out. In these respects the University of Chicago was to differ materially from other universities and colleges in the United States. For instance, while most of these divide the scholastic year into three terms, viz., the fall, the winter and the spring term, with a long vacation following the latter, its year was to be divided into quarters, beginning with the first day of July, October, January and April, respectively, each quarter to comprise twelve weeks, with intervals of one week's vacation. In order to accommodate those desiring to spend a still shorter period at the university each quarter was subdivided into two terms of six weeks.

The advantages of this new arrangement were apparent. In the first place the waste of time under the old system was precluded; in the second, it enabled students to attend one or two quarters and spend the remainder of the year in some profitable occupation, earning the means to continue their studies; in the third, it was made possible to prepare for examinations in shorter time; in the fourth, the courses of instruction could be arranged more conveniently for the professors and instructors. While their term of service was nine months out of

the year, they might be granted permission, at any time suiting their purpose, to pursue special studies or take a vacation for their health. By serving longer than the prescribed periods, they might earn either longer vacations or an extra income.

Another result of this division of the university calendar was the abolition of classes and their names, such as Freshman, Sophomore, Junior and Senior, and with that the class spirit. The result of the quarter system was that a student might begin his studies any time of



The University of Chicago—The Women's Dormitories

the year and take his examinations at the end of any of the four quarters.

The University of Chicago held its first convocation October 1, 1892. An imposing corps of professors and instructors had already been selected, comprising men who had served at American and European universities, and no less than five hundred students had then been enrolled. Adding to this the fact that the financial position of the institution had been further strengthened by new donations by Mr. Rockefeller and others, it will appear that the future of the new university was exceptionally bright. The rich promises given at the start have been most handsomely realized.

The development of the University of Chicago has been phenomenal in every respect, and at its present pace the university inspires the confidence that it will in a short time become one of the best organized and most largely attended universities in the world. A few

figures may be quoted as showing most clearly the rapid progress already made during the first decade of its existence. The enrollment increased during the decade of 1892-02 from 698 to 4,450 and the endowment funds during the same period from $1,539,561 to $9,165,126, the value of the real estate, building, etc., from $1,618,778 to $6,000,000 and the total value of all the property of the university to $15,128,375; the number of professors and instructors grew from 135 to 323, and the current annual expenditures from $109,496 to $944,348.

This magnificent material growth was made possible by continued donations, aggregating over $18,000,000 for the same period. The principal donor is Mr. Rockefeller, whose gifts during this same decade amounted to more than $10,000,000. Since then he has donated millions more. Other wealthy men and women, especially Chicagoans, have contributed munificently to the university, such as, Miss Helen Culver, who gave one million to the department of biology; Mrs. Emmons Blaine, who donated over a million to the School of Education for the training of expert teachers; Martin A. Ryerson, who founded the Ryerson Physical Laboratory in memory of his father and gave large sums towards its equipment; Sydney A. Kent, who founded the Kent Chemical Laboratory; Charles T. Yerkes, who gave to the university the world's largest telescope and besides contributed liberally toward the equipment of the university observatory at Lake Geneva, Wis., which bears the donor's name; Marshall Field, who made large donations to the general funds; Silas B. Cobb, founder of Cobb Hall; George C. Walker, who donated the Walker Museum and has shown his generosity in other ways; Mrs. Charles Hitchcock, who erected the dormitory for boys as a memorial to her husband, Mr. Charles N. Hitchcock; Mrs. Caroline E. Haskell, who donated a building and established a lectureship in memory of her husband, Mr. Frederick Haskell, Mrs. Elizabeth G. Kelly, who founded Kelly and Green halls for female students; Mrs. Mary Beecher, Mrs. Henrietta Snell and Mrs. Nancy S. Foster, who have each had university halls erected, bearing their names; Adolphus C. Bartlett, who equipped the Bartlett Gymnasium in memory of his son, Frank Dickinson Bartlett; Leon Mandel, who founded the Assembly Hall; the William B. Ogden estate, which has donated property, the income from which was used in founding the Ogden Graduate School of Science; John J. Mitchell and Charles L. Hutchinson, who have also remembered the university with substantial donations.

The university buildings in 1902 numbered 20 and the grounds comprised 75 acres in Chicago and 65 acres at Williams Bay, Wisconsin.

By an agreement between the directors of the Rush Medical College, established in Chicago in 1837, and the regents of the University of Chicago, that renowned medical institution in April, 1901,

became identified with the university to the extent that the medical students during the first two years of the course pursued their studies at the university proper. A year later the directors of the medical school proposed a complete merger which, however, has not yet been effected, owing chiefly to economic obstacles.

On March 11, 1902, the university regents appropriated $50,000 towards the purchase of a law library and the establishment of the law school already decided upon. Other professional and technical schools are to be established as the exigencies will permit.

The splendid progress made by this university is proof positive of the wisdom and care with which the broad and practical plans were mapped out.

The total attendance for the year ending July 1, 1907, compiled on the basis of three quarters or nine months to the school year, was 5,070. Of these 2,629 were men and 2,441 women. Since 1893 the number of grauates has been 4,131.

On Jan. 10, 1906, the university suffered an incalculable loss in the death of President William Rainey Harper, who had served through fourteen and one-half years. On the death of Harper, Harry Pratt Judson was appointed acting president of the university, and on Feb. 20, 1907, he was elected to the presidency. Judson prepared at Williams College, from which he graduated in 1870 and received the degree of A. M. in 1883; was principal of the high school in Troy, N. Y.; professor at the University of Minnesota 1885-92; received the degree of LL. D. from his alma mater 1893, and has the same title from the Queen's University, Ontario, the State University of Iowa and the Washington University, St. Louis; was co-editor of the "American Historical Review" 1895-1902; became professor of political science and head dean of the colleges of the University of Chicago 1892; after two years he was made head of the department of political science and dean of the faculties of arts, literature and science, a position held until 1907, when elected president of the university.

The World's Fair at Chicago

As the four hundreth anniversary of the discovery of America by Columbus drew near, suggestions were made from various directions that the event be celebrated by means of a world's exposition, just as in 1876 the one hundreth anniversary of the independence of the United States was celebrated. The first step toward the 400th anniversary celebration was taken in November, 1885, when the directors of the Chicago Inter-States Exposition Company passed a resolution declaring in favor of such a plan. The second step was taken July 6th of the following year, when the Iroquois Club of Chicago invited six other clubs of the city to co-operate with it in arranging for "an international

celebration, in Chicago, of the four hundreth anniversary of the discovery of America by Columbus." With that the matter rested for some time.

The newspapers of the country, however, began to discuss the project and cast about for the most suitable location for a new world's exposition, Washington, New York, Chicago, and St. Louis being strenuously advocated by their respective papers. Then the citizens of Chicago no longer confined themselves to a discussion in the abstract, but took action long before the other three proposed cities had closed



World's Fair Administration Building

the debate. Thus Chicago again went on record as a most energetic and progressive community.

After having advised with men of prominence, such as J. W. Scott, the editor of the "Chicago Herald," Thomas B. Bryan, the lawyer and politician, and others, Mayor Dewitt C. Cregier on July 22, 1889, laid the matter before the city council, which at once requested the mayor to appoint a committee of one hundred (later increased to 250) citizens to further the exposition project among the people and hold forth the advantages of Chicago for that purpose. Pursuant to this resolution, a large meeting was held August 1st, at which a set of resolutions, framed by Thomas B. Bryan, were adopted and subsequently published throughout the United States. An executive committee also was appointed, consisting of 51 persons, to take active charge of the pre-

liminary preparations for the exposition. Its first act was to form an exposition company with a capital stock of $5,000,000 in shares of $10 each. So rapid was the progress made that the company, whose corporate name was The World's Exposition of 1892, was legally incorporated on the 14th of the same month, and at once proceeded to sell stock.

The competition among the four cities bidding for the exposition now grew extremely brisk. From New York and Washington it was urged that Chicago was situated entirely too far inland to attract foreign participation. These and other objections were successfully combated by the Chicago committee, which was ably assisted by the influential men of Illinois and neighboring states.

On Jan. 12, 1890, the committees of the four cities had a hearing in Washington before a special committee appointed by the senate. New York was represented by more than one hundred of its foremost citizens, whose combined wealth aggregated several hundred millions, and who lost no opportunity to press the claims of their city. But the Chicago representatives proved conclusively that their city had a greater volume of trade in portion to its population than New York and had a far more suitable site to offer.

While congress had the matter under consideration its decision was awaited with the greatest interest. Along towards spring the question was passed on, and Chicago was the choice.

On April 25, 1890, President Harrison signed the congressional act by which the quadri-centennial exposition was located at Chicago. According to the terms of said act, the president named eight commissioners-at-large together with two commissioners and two alternates from each state and territory in the Union and the District of Columbia. This commission chose as Director-General of the exposition Col. George R. Davis of Chicago, as President ex-senator Thomas W. Palmer of Michigan, and as Secretary John T. Dickinson of Texas. The commcommission delegated part of its authority to a Board of Reference and Control, half of its members being appointed by the exposition company.

Pending the act of congress, stock had been liberally subscribed, so that at the time congress took action the number of stockholders had reached about 30,000. These were called to meet in Battery D, on April 10th, when the organization was completed by the election of forty-five directors, picked from among the wealthiest citizens. Two days later the board of directors met at the Sherman House and chose a committee on finance and a committee to draft by-laws. At the next meeting April 30th, Lyman J. Gage was elected president of the board, Thomas B. Bryan first and Potter Palmer second vice-president. On May 6th the board elected William J. Ackerman auditor and Anthony

F. Seeberger treasurer, and finally on July 11th Benjamin Butterworth secretary. The president of the board appointed a number of auxiliary committees to have charge of various departments of work.

June 12th the stockholders at an extra meeting changed the name to The World's Columbian Exposition Company, in accordance with the congressional act, and also decided to increase the capital stock from $5,000,000 to $10,000,000, to comply with another condition named by congress, that the time and place of the exposition should be fixed, the grounds and buildings assured and ten million dollars subscribed



World's Fair Government Building

for the enterprise before the President of the United States would issue to foreign nations the official invitation to take part.

Besides these two boards there was still another, the Board of Lady Managers, consisting of two lady representatives and alternates from each state and territory and nine for the city of Chicago. Mrs. Potter Palmer of Chicago, a woman of prominence no less for her high intellectual attainments than for her great wealth and social position, was chosen as its president. To this board was entrusted the management of everything pertaining to the participation of women in the exposition and to the woman's department of exhibits.

In the matter of choosing a site a diversity of opinions arose. Some of the directors suggested Jackson Park, in the southern part of the city, while others favored a more central location. The former opinion prevailed, and building operations were begun as soon as a construction

department had been formed, with Daniel H. Burnham as chief, John W. Root as architect, Abram Gottlieb as engineer, and the firm of Olmstead & Co. as landscape architects. In order to have the buildings constructed with a view to artistic beauty as well as practical uses, a board of consulting architects was picked from among the most skillful men of the craft in Chicago. Besides, architects from New York, Boston, and other cities were called in to assist in making the drawings. The expenditures for the grading of the site and the erection of the buildings were estimated at $16,075,453.



World's Fair—Illinois Building

Ground was broken for the exposition on Feb. 11, 1891. Swamps were drained, depressions filled, old lagoons and ponds dredged and new ones scooped out, walks and drives constructed and extensive improvements in the landscape planned. Piles were driven, foundations were laid, and soon the "White City" began to rise in splendor. In spite of changes that had to be made in the plans from time to time, the work progressed without interruption, thanks to efficient management both of the finances and the actual operations.

It was not an easy matter to raise the necessary ten millions, but the leaders of the enterprise were equal to the task. Through their influence, the state legislature was prevailed upon to grant Chicago the privilege of issuing bonds to the amount of five millions in order to invest said amount in exposition stock. But besides this amount and

the aggregate amount subscribed by individuals, six or seven millions were still needed. Numerous plans to raise money were devised, but none was found altogether satisfactory. Finally, it was proposed to issue souvenir coins to be sold at an advanced price as a means of raising the additional amount required. The plan was laid before congress, which with some reluctance resolved that souvenir half dollars should be struck to the amount of $2,500,000 and sold at one dollar each, thus netting the exposition $5,000,000. Furthermore, the



World's Fair—Agricultural Building

exposition company issued bonds to the amount of $5,000,000 more, payable Jan. 1, 1894.

Neither plan brought the desired results, and new exertions were made. To the railway companies were sold $850,000 worth of bonds and several Chicago banks made loans to the exposition company taking unsold souvenir coins as security.

At the annual meeting in April, 1891, Lyman J. Gage resigned the presidency and was succeeded by William J. Baker.

Despite all preparations, there prevailed in the East and especially throughout Europe a lack of confidence in Chicago's ability to manage a universal exposition. The notion was general that Chicago was located on the outskirts of civilization and therefore incapable of

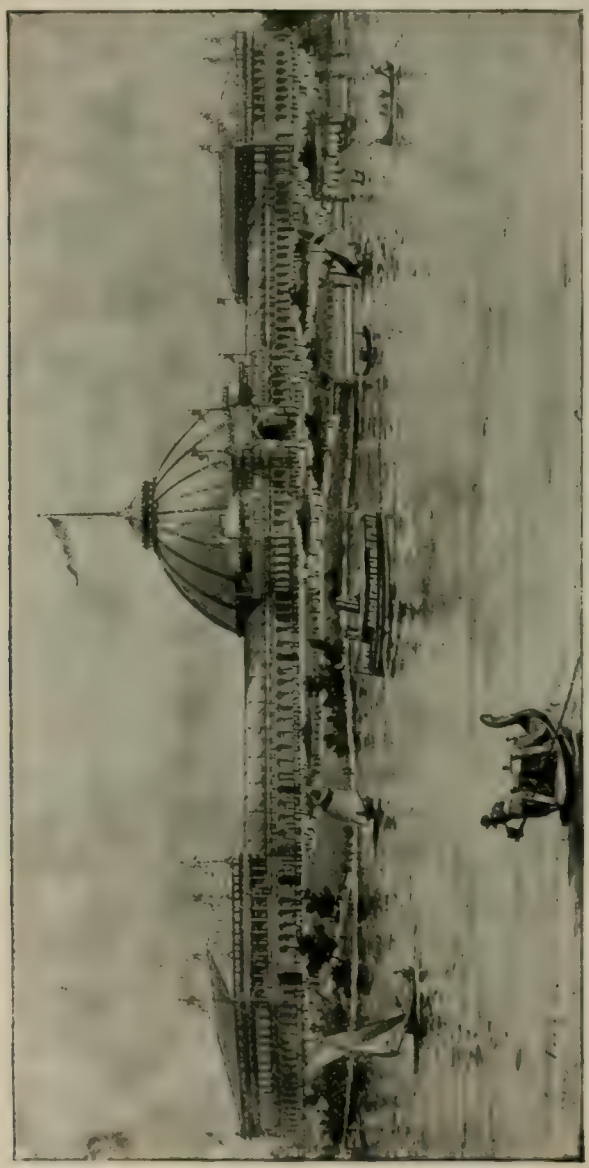
producing a world's fair such as had been seen in London, Paris and Vienna. The exposition management resolved to overcome this prejudice and to that end appointed a special commission to visit the nations



World's Fair- Art Palace, Now Field's Museum

of northern Europe and their governments. This commission, consisting of five members, started for Europe in July, 1891, and performed its arduous work systematically and with marked success. As a result of its efforts, coupled with those of the government in the same direction, favorable responses to the invitation extended to the nations were received from a great number of governments and private corporations. To represent the exposition in a similar manner in southern Europe, Thomas B. Bryan and Harlow N. Higinbotham were appointed. The first gained an audience with the Pope himself and

succeeded in gaining his co-operation and good will. The Holy Father with his own hand wrote a cordial endorsement of the enterprise, which



World's Fair — Horticultural Building

was subsequently translated into a number of languages and published far and wide. Its reassuming effect on the Catholic nations was unquestionable. The efforts of the two commissioners were crowned with success throughout. In recognition of his services, Mr. Higin-

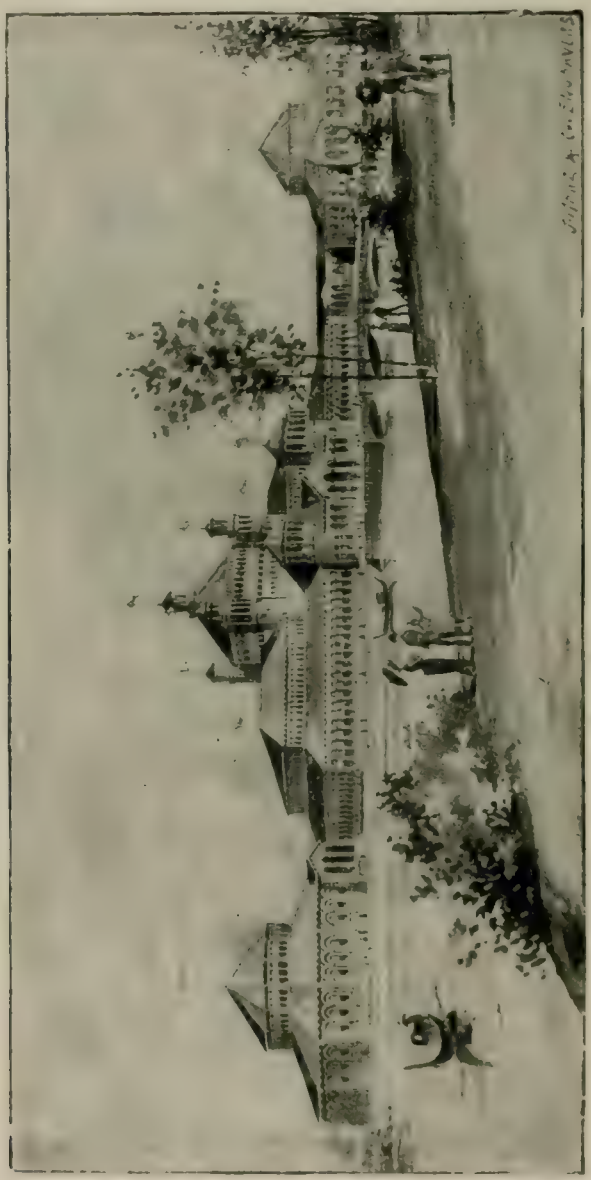
botham, upon his return to Chicago in February, 1892, was chosen vice-president of the exposition.

While this work was in progress abroad the exposition buildings were rapidly nearing completion and the time for the opening of the fair was not far off. Up to this time the board of directors and the board of commissioners had borne the entire responsibility for the financial administration. The number of members being equal in the two boards, a tie might easily result in important decisions. In order to preclude deadlocks and resultant delays a council of administration was created, consisting of members from both boards. As representatives of the directors were chosen Harlow N. Higinbotham and Charles H. Schwab and for the commissioners George G. Massey of Delaware and J. W. St. Clair of West Virginia. These elected Mr. Higinbotham their chairman, and he was about the same time chosen president of the exposition. This council had absolute authority to determine all questions of administrative policy, but were not empowered to pass appropriations beyond those made by the directors. One of the first acts of the council was to postpone the date of the dedication of the exposition from October 12th, the day fixed by congress, to October 21st. This was done partly because the city of New York had fixed on the former date for the holding of a grand naval review in commemoration of the 400th anniversary, partly from a desire to bring the celebration as near as possible to the date of the landing of Columbus on American soil.

The dedicatory exercises six months prior to the opening were held in order to publish to the world the extent of the preparation and the magnitude of the undertaking. The exercises opened with a salute of cannon at sunrise. In the forenoon the directors, commissioners, lady managers and specially invited guests assembled in Michigan avenue, in front of the Auditorium hotel, where they formed in line, the parade passing, with flags flying and music playing, down the avenue and on to the World's Fair grounds. Here they were joined by Vice-President Levi P. Morton, representing the President of the United States, and President Thomas W. Palmer of the board of commissioners. In Washington Park 15,000 national troops from various points passed in review before the guests of honor, the procession then passing along Midway Plaisance to the entrance to the grounds. The place of assemblage was the gigantic Manufacturers' Building, where luncheon was served to 70,000 people. At the time set for the dedicatory ceremonies an immense mass of people crowded about the gateways to the exposition grounds, and at the command of President Higinbotham the gates were thrown open and the public given free admittance for that day.

The order of ceremonies was as follows: Columbian March, com-

posed for the occasion by Prof. J. K. Paine of Cambridge, was rendered by the Columbian Orchestra and chorus. Following a prayer, offered by Bishop Fowler, an introductory address was made by



World's Fair Fish and Fisheries Building

Director-General George R. Davis. Mayor Hempstead Washburne next welcomed Vice-President Morton and the foreign representatives, offering them the freedom of the city. Mrs. Sarah Le Moyne then read the World's Fair Ode, written by Miss Harriet Monroe, portions of the

poem, set to music by George W. Chadwick, being subsequently rendered by the Columbian Chorus. Director of Works Daniel H. Burnham now presented the buildings to President Higinbotham and introduced to him the engineers, architects and artists who had constructed and decorated them. President Higinbotham responded, presenting to each of these a special medal in recognition of their work in behalf of the exposition. During this presentation the chorus rendered Mendelssohn's "To the Sons of Art."

Mrs. Potter Palmer, president of the Board of Lady Managers, then followed with an address on the work accomplished by that body, whereupon President Higinbotham presented the exposition buildings to President Palmer of the World's Columbian Exposition Commissioners, he in turn presenting them to Vice-President Morton, who dedicated them to their various uses. The Columbian Chorus sang the "Alleluiah Chorus" from Handel's Messiah; Col. Henry Watterson of Kentucky made an address, followed by another song, "The Star-Spangled Banner," by the chorus; another address was made by Mr. Chauncey M. Depew of New York, and the ceremonies were concluded with a prayer by Cardinal Gibbons of Baltimore, the singing of Beethoven's "In Praise of God" by the chorus and the benediction, pronounced by Rev. Henry C. McCook of Philadelphia. Immediately following the conclusion of the dedicatory ceremonies, the artillery post stationed in the park fired the national salute.

The opening of the World's Fair was set for May 1, 1893, and an enormous amount of work still remained to be accomplished during the intervening six months. Thanks to the energy and push of the directors almost all exterior work was finished in the time fixed. The arrangement of exhibits, however, required additional time, and the exposition, therefore, was not in proper order until the first of June.

The festivities in connection with the formal opening were held in that part of the grounds called the Court of Honor. Here gathered, in the forenoon of May 1st, the following guests of honor and officiating personages, namely, the Duke of Veragua, specially invited as the direct descendant of Columbus, together with his family; Grover Cleveland, President of the United States; Adlai Stevenson, Vice President of the United States; members of the cabinet, of the diplomatic corps and of congress; the three departments of the exposition management, namely, the Board of Directors, the Board of Commissioners and the Board of Lady Managers; foreign commissioners, members of the different state commissions and chiefs and other officials of the various exposition departments.

The opening of the exposition took place according to the following order of ceremonies: Music, Columbian March (John H. Paine), by the orchestra; prayer by Rev. W. H. Milburn of Washington, D. C.; poem,

"the Propheey," by W. A. Crofflut of Washington; music, "Overture to Rienzi" (Wagner), by the orchestra; address by the Director-General of the exposition; address by the President of the United



World's Fair—Electricity Building

States; starting of the machinery in Machinery Hall, while Handel's "Alleluiah Chorus" was sung; official reception in the Manufacturers' Building, by President Cleveland and the World's Fair directors, of the foreign commissioners.

Immediately after the close of the President's address, the chief magistrate pressed the button of an electric line connecting with a great steam engine of 2,000 horse powers, starting the engine and this in turn bringing the fountains and cascades of the Court of Honor into play. At the same instant the flags of all the Fair buildings were unfurled to the breeze, and amid the roar of steam whistles throughout the city and harbor, the firing of cannon and the thundering huzzas of the sea of humanity assembled in the grounds, the Columbian Exposition was opened the the world. Chicago, Queen of the West, had reached the goal of her ambition: the World's Fair was an accomplished fact.

Before describing the further progress of the exposition and the manner in which the directors managed to carry the enormous financial burdens laid upon their shoulders, a comparison may properly be drawn between this and previous world's expositions with reference to area, number of exhibitors, and visitors, appropriations, etc. This is given in the following table:

Year.	Place.	No. of exhibitors.	No. of visitors.	Acres.	No. of days open.
1851	London	15,500	6,039,195	13.	144
1855	Paris	23,954	6,162,330	22.1	200
1862	London	28,653	6,225,000	25.6	171
1867	Paris	52,200	9,238,967	31.	217
1873	Vienna	42,584	7,254,687	56.5	186
1876	Philadelphia	60,000	9,910,966	236.	159
1878	Paris	40,366	16,032,725	100.	191
1889	Paris	55,000	28,149,353	173.	183
1893	Chicago		27,539,521	645.	183

The capacity of the various buildings of the Chicago exposition is shown in the following table:

Buildings.	Square feet.	Acres.
Administration	51,456	1.18
Agriculture	589,416	13.53
Art	261,073	5.99
Electricity	265,500	6.09
Fisheries	104,504	2.39
Government	155,896	3.57
Horticulture	237,956	5.46
Machinery	796,686	18.28
Manufactures	1,345,462	30.88
Mines	246,181	5.65
Transportation	704,066	16.16
Woman's	82,698	1.89
Minor	1,630,514	37.43
State	450,886	10.35
Foreign	135,663	3.11
Concessions (Midway Plaisance buildings, booths, etc.)	801,238	18.39
Miscellaneous	317,699	7.29
Total	8,176,894	187.69

Midway Plaisance was the name of the narrow stretch of open space extending from Jackson to Washington parks. This was at the disposal of the commissioners and was utilized for the extra attractions or side shows to the exposition. Here various semi- and uncivilized nations were assigned space for their exhibits and performances, showing the life and customs of various races. Great panoramas of natural sceneries from foreign lands were exhibited. Products and curios from every clime were sold, and in numerous variety theaters the plays and pastimes of the nations were more or less correctly presented. Also a great number of restaurants and cafés of various kinds were located there. One of the most original attractions of the Midway was the so-called Ferris Wheel, constructed by Engineer Ferris and named after him. It was the Chicago counterpart of the Eiffel Tower at the Paris Exposition of 1889. From the hanging cars of this gigantic wheel was afforded a charming birds-eye view of the White City and its environments.

Thirty-seven states of the Union had their own buildings at the Fair. The majority of these were a combination of exposition building for products of a state and meeting place for its citizens. Forty-seven foreign nations had made appropriations to the exposition and of these eighteen had their own buildings, besides being represented in one or more of the seventeen main departments. Exhibitors from no less than eighty-six countries were present.

Among exhibiting nations was the United Kingdom of Sweden and Norway, the Swedish riksdag having made an appropriation of 350,000 crowns for the purpose. A national pavilion of a distinct type, capped by an antiquated steeple, was built in Sweden, the material shipped over and the building reconstructed on its site at the exposition grounds. Portions of the Swedish exhibits were arranged in this pavilion, while the remainder were apportioned among the proper departments. The royal commissioner of the Swedish exhibit was Arthur Leffler, the secretary, Axel Welin. Tom Bergendal represented the Swedish Iron Institute, embracing fourteen industrial establishments, and a large number of manufacturers and institutions and organizations in Sweden had sent personal representatives to the exposition.

Besides the $2,500,000 appropriated by the United States in the form of souvenir coins, the national government set aside the amount needed for the erection of a splendid government building and $500,000 for a suitable exhibit therein. The total amount appropriated by the individual states was $6,120,000, Illinois alone expending $800,000. The total foreign appropriations were approximately $6,500,000. Private citizens of Chicago signed for shares $5,608,206, and the city of Chicago purchased shares for the sum of $5,000,000, raised by an issue of bonds.

In order to heighten the interest in the exposition a series of international congresses was arranged by a special board, established Oct. 30, 1890, as the World's Congress Auxiliary of the World's Columbian Exposition, headed by Charles Carroll Bonney, the originator of the idea. This work was divided into twenty departments, each of which was subdivided into various divisions, numbering altogether 224. The congresses held 1,283 sessions, making a total of 753 days. According to the printed announcements, there were 5,978 addresses and papers by 5,822 speakers and authors. The most noteworthy one was doubtless the Parliament of Religions, in which many prominent representatives of the principal religions of the world in addresses, treatises and discussions endeavored to show their relative positions.

Swedish Day at the World's Fair

A great number of festivals, special days set aside for various nationalities or occupations, memorial days, etc., furnished the additional events of the Fair. Among the national festivals, Swedish Day, July 20th, may be mentioned as one of the most successful and picturesque celebrations during the entire exposition.

Swedish Day at the World's Fair was a gala day for the Swedish nationality in Chicago. The celebration began early in the day with a street parade in the down-town district, participated in by 10,000 people, according to estimate. On the exposition grounds there was a second parade, followed by an afternoon concert at Festival Hall, exercises at the Swedish pavilion at sunset and a pyrotechnic display in the evening.

Early in the morning Swedish organizations of the north and west sides began to assemble on Chicago avenue. Marshalled by Dr. Sven Windrow and Mr. L. F. Hussander, they marched to Lake Front Park to join the south side organizations and other participants. Forming in Michigan avenue, the parade wound its way through the city, on the following line of march: Michigan ave., Monroe st., State st., Lake st., Fifth ave., Madison st., Market st., Monroe st., Fifth ave., Jackson st., Wabash ave., Congress st., Michigan ave.

The parade, headed by Robert Lindblom as chief marshal, with N. N. Cronholm as adjutant, was made up of three divisions, in the following order: First division—platoon of police; band; American Union of Swedish Singers; distinguished guests and ladies in carriages. Second division—marshals; band; John Ericsson Legion, Select Knights of America; Belmont Legion of the same; First Swedish Uniformed Ranks, Knights of Pythias; Svea Society in carriages; Swedish Glee Club members in carriages; First Swedish Lodge of Odd Fellows; North Star Lodge, Knights of Honor; band; Svithiod Club members in carriages; Linnaeus Club members on horseback and in carriages; publish-

ers and personnel of Swedish-American newspapers, "Svenska Amerikanaren," "Svenska Tribunen" and "Humoristen," in carriages; band; Gustaf Adolf Society; Court Vega Pleasure Club; Monitor Council, Royal Arcanum, in carriages; Nordenskjöld Lodge, Knights and Ladies of Honor; Götha Lodge of the same; Thor Society; Ledstjernan Lodge, Sons of Temperance; Court Stockholm, Independent Order of Foresters; band; Independent Order of Vikings. Third division—marshals; band; Svenska Gardet, preceded by their band; Uniformed Ranks, Knights of Pythias, South Chicago; Swedish Gym-



World's Fair—Swedish Building

nastic and Fencing Club; ladies in Swedish provincial costumes; Nordstjernan Society, preceded by their band; United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners; Iduna Society; Verdandi Lodge, K. of P., Burnside; Balder Society; Linnea Society; Svenska Understödsföreningen; Pullman Band; Harmony Lodge, K. of P., Pullman; Lyran Singing Club, Pullman; Phoenix Lodge, No. 7, W. S. A., Englewood; citizens in carriages. Scattered through the parade were a number of picturesque and characteristic floats and groups, as follows: John Eriesson's "Monitor," furnished by John Eriesson Lodge; "A Feast in Valhall," by the Svithiod Club; "Svea, Columbia and Fama," by the Svea Society; "The Bellman Room" by Mr. Colliander; group of Laplanders, exhibiting at Midway Plaisance; groups of ladies in provincial costumes;

"Old Time Swedish Iron Smelter"; "Swedes of Delaware in 1638"; "Swedes and Indians", by Iduna Society.

From the piers on the lake front the paraders boarded the boats waiting to carry them to the exposition grounds. Upon arrival they were met by a procession from the Swedish pavilion, headed by the Swedish commissioner, Arthur Leffler, and his suite, escorted by a detail of Columbian Guards. At the Casino the paraders again formed in line and marched through the Court of Honor, past the principal buildings to the Swedish pavilion where they disbanded and scattered through the grounds.

Thousands repaired to Festival Hall, which was crowded long before four o'clock, the hour set for the grand concert, given under the auspices of the American Union of Swedish Singers. For this occasion no less than three celebrated artists from the Royal Opera at Stockholm had been engaged, namely, Caroline Östberg, soprano; C. F. Lundquist, tenor, and Conrad Behrens, basso. Adding to this the Theodore Thomas Orchestra and the United Singers, led by John R. Örtengren, a grand chorus of four hundred male voices, and the array of talent was such as to make this a notable Swedish musical event in Chicago, rivaled only by the appearance of Christina Nilsson twenty years prior.

Following the concert and after a medley of Swedish melodies had been played on the chimes in Machinery Hall by A. E. Bredberg of St. James' Cathedral, the people gathered for a folkfest at the Swedish pavilion. Addresses were made by Arthur Leffler, Swedish commissioner, T. B. Bryan, of the exposition directors, and Dr. J. A. Enander; songs were rendered by Mr. Lundquist and the A. U. S. S. chorus, and "greetings from fifty thousand Swedish-Americans" were telegraphed to his majesty, King Oscar II.

All day the flag of yellow and blue was everywhere in evidence, floating over the parading hosts, draping the interior of Festival Hall and waving beside the stars and stripes on many a pinnacle in the White City. The days' celebration added about 50,000 to the average daily attendance at the fair, raising the total to more than 126,000. It was a day of national inspiration to all Swedish-Americans participating and in every way a splendid success, fully comparable to the celebrations of other nationalities.

The principal historical celebrations were Patriotic Day, Independence Day and Chicago Day, the last-named in commemoration of the great Chicago fire in 1871. This celebration occurred October 9th and was marked by an enormous attendance from the city and the state at large. The number of visitors to the Fair that day was 716,880, this being undoubtedly the greatest concourse of people in the United States at any one time and place. During the summer the exposition management gave several banquets, the most brilliant affair being the reception

given to the foreign commissioners October 11th. This was held at the Music Hall and was very largely attended.

During the month of May the total receipts amounted to $583,031, and during June to $1,256,180. The promise implied in these figures was made good. Thus the month of August showed the remarkable total of $2,337,856.25. The receipts of the exposition from all sources, including city, state and national appropriations, were $28,151,168.75. The gate receipts amounted to $10,626,330.76 and the special concessions realized $3,699,581.43.

The expenditures of the Exposition Company, including cost of organization, construction, and administration, were summed up March 31, 1894, at $27,151,800. If the expenses of the various states and the foreign nations are added, the total outlay for the Columbian Exposition will be found to reach almost forty-five million dollars.

Extensive preparations were made to close the Fair October 30th in a manner befitting its grandeur, but a lamentable event threw a pall over the city and made it expedient to simplify the closing celebration to a degree. On October 28th, Carter H. Harrison, the mayor of the city, fell by the hand of an assassin, an Irish fanatic, named Patrick Prendergast. In consequence the events of the closing day were marked by gloom rather than gayety. Festival Hall was packed with humanity. President Palmer of the Board of Commissioners stepped forward with the announcement that owing to the sad circumstances most of the numbers of the proposed program had been eliminated, whereupon he pronounced the exposition officially closed. After a few brief remarks, Dr. Barrows pronounced the benediction over the assembled hosts, which then regretfully departed from the hall to the strains of Beethoven's "Funeral March." The flags on the pinnacles of the exposition halls were lowered, the doors were closed, and the echo of the final artillery salute died as daylight waned on the domes of the exposition city. A strong sense of the vanity of all things created by the hand of man pressed home to every thoughtful spectator as he bade the fabulous beauty and splendor of the White City a last farewell. Thus the World's Columbian Exposition, the pride of Chicago and of the nation, passed into history.

The Chicago Drainage Canal

The growth of Chicago made it apparent to the municipal authorities that something had to be done to lead the flow from the extensive sewer system of the city into some other channel than the Chicago River, which empties into the lake, or the water supply from this last named source would eventually become entirely unfit for use. At first they tried to remedy the matter by deepening the Illinois and Michigan Canal so as to cause the river to run west instead of east, i. e., from the

lake instead of into it. This work was carried out in 1865-1871. Although a pumping station was established at the juncture of the river and the canal at Bridgeport, calculated to assist in the reversal of the current of the river and force it into the canal, yet this experiment proved unsuccessful.

The intakes of the water works were then located several miles out in the lake, but even that arrangement was inadequate. Spring floods, storms and heavy rainfalls would at frequent intervals carry great volumes of impure water out as far as the cribs, where it would be absorbed at the intakes and carried back through the mains and be dis-



The Drainage Canal—Gates at Controlling Works, Lockport

tributed throughout the city, imperiling the health of its inhabitants. This condition was not to be tolerated, and other remedies were suggested from time to time, yet no plan, however plausible, pointed out a way of surmounting the chief obstacle, a lack of funds.

Toward the close of the year 1885, H. B. Hurd, who had served on the Board of Drainage Commissioners in 1855, was urged by a number of leading men to make a careful study of the problem. After he had convinced himself and others that the question offered no legal difficulties, provided the legislature would pass the necessary measures, the city council on Jan. 27, 1886, passed a resolution authorizing the mayor to name a commission, consisting of one engineer with a knowledge of sanitary affairs, and two assistant engineers, to investigate the water and sewer systems and submit a report on the result. The elder Mayor Harrison appointed as expert engineer Rudolph Hering of Philadelphia and as his assistants two Chicago engineers, Benezette Williams and S. G. Artingstall. At the next session of the legislature, in 1887, two bills on this subject were submitted. The one, the so-called Hurd bill,

proposed that the necessary funds for sanitary improvements be raised by general taxation and by an issue of bonds; the other, known as the Winston bill, proposed special taxation, or assessment, for the same purpose. When it became evident that neither bill had any chance of passage, a new and simpler one, called the Roche-Winston bill, was submitted and passed toward the end of the session. This provided for a commission, consisting of two senators, two representatives and Mayor Roche of Chicago, to investigate the drainage question still further, and also proposed a canal running from the Desplaines River north of the city to Lake Michigan, to carry off the waters of that river



The Drainage Canal The Bear Trap Dam, from Downstream

and the north branch of the Chicago River. Nothing, however, was accomplished to this end.

In the next legislature (1889) the commission made a favorable report, and a new drainage bill was submitted, essentially providing for the organization of a so-called Sanitary District, the digging of a drainage canal of suitable width and depth through the watershed between the basin of Lake Michigan and the Desplaines river valley, the appointment of a drainage board of nine members and the raising of the requisite funds by general assessment on all taxable property in the district created. The bill met with strong opposition, principally from the people dwelling along the Illinois River, who feared, partly that Chicago's sewage would permanently impair the wholesomeness of the river water, partly that the volumes of water from the canal would flood the bottomlands along the river. The friends of the bill urged to the contrary that if the canal were built and the Desplaines and Illinois rivers were dredged between Joliet and LaSalle, an excellent waterway between Lake Michigan and the Mississippi would be

opened. During the eighteen months that this bill hung in the balance, largely attended conventions were held in Peoria, Memphis and other cities, at which the bill was warmly endorsed. The fear that the canal would lower the watermark in the lake was dispelled by experts, who explained that even with a flow of 600,000 cubic feet per minute, this being the maximum estimate, the surface of the lake would be lowered at most three inches.

This bill, so highly important to the city of Chicago, was passed by the legislature May 29, 1889. At the general election in Chicago Nov. 5th following, the proposition to organize the aforesaid sanitary district was carried by a large majority. This district comprises all that part of



The Drainage Canal—Seventeen Miles of the Canal are Sawed Out of the Solid Rock

Chicago north of 87th street, together with an area of about 47 square miles in Cook county, outside of the city limits. It measures 18 miles north and south, has a maximum width of 15 miles, its area being 185 square miles, with a population of 1,800,000. At a special election Dec. 12th the same year the members of the drainage board were chosen. Their first important duty was to make the authorized assessment, amounting to one-half per cent. of the tax value of all property found in the district. When later it became apparent that the amount thus realized was inadequate, the board was authorized to raise the assessment to one and one-half per cent. for a period of five years from 1895, at the expiration of which the former rate was to prevail. In addition, the board was empowered to raise funds by issuing bonds.

The financing of the entire enterprise was thus assured. But owing to differences arising among the trustees, actual work on the canal was delayed almost two years. Four trustees having resigned and other

men elected to fill their places, the work was begun. The first sod was turned near Lemont Sept. 3, 1892, by Frank Wenter, president of the board. Necessary gradings, surveys, condemnations and letting of contracts had previously been made. The work was now pushed with vigor towards completion, despite obstacles of one kind or another. The route was divided into sections, each being let to one or more contractors according to the nature of the work to be done. For long stretches the bedrock was being blasted by means of dynamite, fired night and day by electric contacts, in other localities laborers, busy as ants, were digging through soil and clay, while still others were working like beavers constructing costly dams. The work progressed



The Drainage Canal Walls of Solid Stone Artificially Laid

steadily, and seven years after ground was broken the canal was completed.

The drainage canal starts in the southwestern part of the city, at the point were Robey street crosses the south branch of the river, and runs parallel with the Illinois and Michigan Canal in a straight line southwest to Summit, a distance of eight miles. This stretch of canal has a width of 110 feet at the bottom and 198 feet at the waterline, and a minimum depth of 22 feet. At Summit the canal turns southward and a little farther down takes a westward course to Willow Springs, five miles from Summit. This section is 202 feet wide at the bottom and 290 at the water's edge, the depth being uniform throughout. From Willow Springs it runs west past Sag and Lemont to Romeo where it makes a sharp curve southward towards Lockport, the western terminus, located about fifteen miles from Willow Springs. This stretch is cut through solid rock and the corresponding measurements are 160 and 162 feet. The entire length of the canal is 28 miles.

The total excavations comprised 41,410,000 cubic yards, 28,500,000 being earth, clay and gravel and 12,910,000, rock. But other work was also necessary. The Desplaines River, which was cut or touched by the canal route at a number of points, had to be led into other channels, and for this purpose an extra canal, 13 miles in length, was dug and a levee built for a distance of 19 miles. The new river-bed is 200 feet wide at the bottom and represents an excavation of 2,068,659 cubic yards, bringing the total excavations up to 43,478,659 cubic yards. If all this material had been dumped into the lake it would have formed an island one square mile in area and 12 feet high above water level. The total cost of digging the canal was $33,525,691.20.



The Drainage Canal—Two Mile Curve at Romeo, Ill.

For the regulation of the current costly locks were constructed at the western terminal of the canal at Lockport. There are seven smaller locks 20 by 30 feet and one large one, the so-called Bear Trap Dam with a width of 160 feet and a vertical play of 17 feet. The latter consists of two huge sheet iron plates joined by means of hinges, the lower one being firmly fastened to a substantial substructure, while the upper one is so placed as to obstruct the current. This mechanism is operated by the power of the current itself, the water being let into special conduits and regulated by a set of valves placed directly under the iron dam. This is claimed to be the most ingenious piece of mechanism of its kind in the world. Near the locks there is a basin large enough to permit vessels of maximum draft to turn.

This gigantic piece of engineering work was completed in seven years. On Jan. 2, 1900, the current was turned into the canal, and on Jan. 17th, when this had been filled, the great locks were opened, causing the interesting spectacle of the Chicago River reversing its

current. Its waters, thick with filth and sewage, foul-smelling and almost stagnant, yet sluggishly moving in the direction of Lake Michigan, now suddenly changed their course and began to move with a speed of a mile and a half per hour in the opposite direction, away from the river's mouth toward its source. Its color quickly changed from its traditional mud color to a light greenish tint, lent by the pure waters drawn from the lake. Thus the constant danger to the purity of Chicago's water supply was practically averted by reversing the current of a navigable stream. At the same time, a portion of waterway between Lake Michigan and the Mississippi, planned years before, had been completed.

The Hennepin Canal

For the sake of completeness, a brief sketch of this latter project is here subjoined. The old Illinois and Michigan Canal soon was found too narrow and too shallow for large deep draft vessels, and in the early seventies the question of building a new canal across the state was raised. A canal bill was presented in congress and in 1871 government engineers made a preliminary survey. In 1890 an appropriation bill, based on said survey, was submitted, and Sept. 19th the needed appropriation was granted. Work was begun at the western canal terminus in July, 1892, and at the eastern end in 1894, and has been in progress ever since.

The Illinois and Mississippi Canal, also termed the Hennepin Canal, starts at the Illinois River one and three-quarters of a mile above the city of Hennepin, at the point where the river changes its course from west to south. Passing the Bureau Creek valley it cuts the watershed between the Illinois and Mississippi rivers and empties into the Rock River at the point where the Green River empties into that stream, thence following the Rock its entire navigable length and reaching the Mississippi after flanking the rapids at the village of Milan. This the main line of the canal is 75 miles in length. A branch, or feeder, constructed at its highest altitude, extends from a point near Sheffield, located 28 miles from its eastern terminus, in a northerly direction to Sterling, where it taps the Rock Falls. A dam built at that point to force the current into the canal makes the Rock River navigable to Dixon, several miles northeast of Sterling. This feeder has a length of 29 miles, which, added to the main channel, makes a total of 104 miles of waterway, or seven miles more than the Illinois and Michigan Canal. From the Illinois River to the highest point there is a rise of 196 feet, and this section has 21 locks, varying in height from six to fourteen feet. From that point to the Mississippi the incline is 93 feet which is overcome by means of ten similar locks. The canal is 80 feet wide and 7 feet deep throughout. Along its entire length the banks

are reinforced with solid masonry. The sluices are 170 feet in length and 35 feet in width, admitting vessels 140 feet long, 32 feet wide and with a tonnage of 600. The locks, bridges and aqueducts are all built of cement and steel, the smaller culverts of steel mains.

This canal shortens the route by water from Chicago to the Mississippi by no less than 400 miles by cutting across from the great bend of the Illinois River almost directly westward to the Mississippi. The extension of the old canal was the Illinois River which, after meandering through the state, empties into the Mississippi not far from the confluence of the Missouri. But in order to open a deep waterway all the way from the lakes to the Mississippi it will be necessary to deepen the old Illinois and Michigan Canal between the terminus of the drainage canal at Lockport and the city of La Salle, where the Illinois becomes navigable. The first steamer passed through the Hennepin Canal in November, 1907.

The cost of the Hennepin Canal was estimated at $6,926,000, including $1,858,000 for the feeder, but through certain changes in the course and reduced cost of material, a substantial saving was made.



CHAPTER III

The First Swedes in Illinois

Raphael Widen, the First Swedish Pioneer in the State

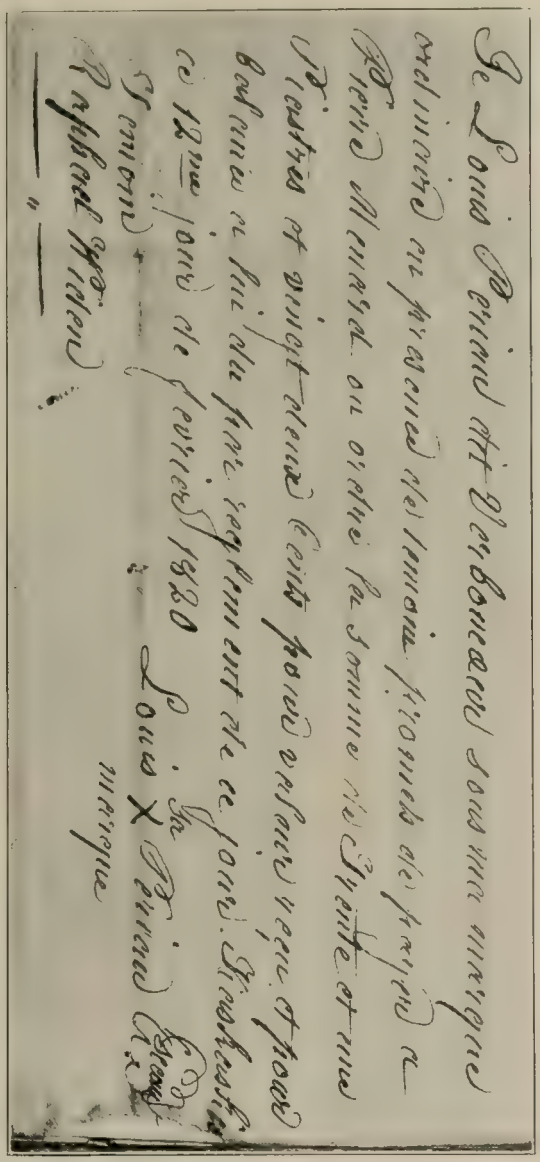
THE first Swede in Illinois was, so far as known to a certainty, one Raphael Widen. The year and place of his birth are unknown, but it is a matter of record that at the age of eight he was brought from Sweden to France where he was educated for the Catholic priesthood. It is not known when he emigrated to the United States. It is noted in the Territorial Records of Illinois that Raphael Widen was appointed justice of the peace of St. Clair county on Jan. 12, 1814, by the territorial governor, Ninian Edwards. He lived at Cahokia, the county seat, where he married, in 1818, into a French family of that place. Removing to Kaskaskia, Randolph county, he was one of the fourteen territorial justices who conducted the affairs of Randolph county during the interregnum from December, 1818, to May, 1819, the last meeting being held April, 19, 1819. Widen continued to act as justice of the peace as late as 1831 and presumably still longer.

Eleven manuscripts in Widen's hand are preserved in the Menard collection of manuscripts at the Chicago Historical Society. The earliest is a contract for the rent of a piece of land. It is written in French, is dated May 24, 1819, and covers two pages. The signatures of the contracting parties are made in Widen's hand, they each marking a cross.

A photograph of a promissory note written in French is reproduced on the opposite page. There are four notes in English, two executions and two summons papers. The latest date on the papers is Oct. 24, 1831. There is also a trust deed for $409.97 to secure a loan from Pierre Menard, first lieutenant governor of Illinois, to Maurice D. Smith and wife, Raphael Widen and Felix St. Vrains being named as trustees.

Widen became a man of more than local prominence. He was the representative of Randolph county in the second and third General

Assemblies of the young state (1820-24), and a member of the senate in the fourth and fifth General Assemblies (1824-28). During the second



Specimen of Handwriting of Raphael Widen

session of the fourth General Assembly in 1826, he was president of the senate.

His career as legislator of the new frontier state was coincident with the period of heated debate over the question whether the state was to be slave or free. Widen took a stand by which he deserves

lasting honor and respect. He was the sworn enemy of slavery and expressed his views freely and fearlessly in the legislature. When on the 11th day of February, 1823, while he was serving his second term as representative, a motion was made in the house to submit to a popular vote the question of calling a convention for the revision of the constitution in the interest of slavery, Widen was among those who voted resolutely against it. This is all the more notable when it is considered that he was one of the only two anti-convention representatives from the middle or southern portion of the state to oppose the bill. The motion carried with a majority of one vote in the house, after having passed the senate by a majority of two-thirds, and as told in foregoing pages, the question was submitted to the people at the election of August 2, 1824. The pro-slavery convention proposition was lost by a vote of 6,640 against it to 4,972 in its favor, settling the slavery question for all time in the state.

Widen lived in Kaskaskia when Lafayette made his visit at that place April 30, 1825. A reference has been found to "Edward Widen, the polished gentleman and enterprising merchant," as having been one of those present at the reception to the French hero. This undoubtedly refers to Raphael Widen in spite of the inaccuracy. Widen died in Kaskaskia from cholera in 1833.

That there were a number of Swedes among those who settled in Illinois in its territorial period admits of no doubt. Though Widen is the first of whom we have definite information, most likely there were others of whom we will never know. In the annals of early Illinois names characteristically Swedish are not infrequent. One Paul Haralson (also written Harrolson and Harelston), is said to have settled on the west side of the Kaskaskia River, near the mouth of Camp's Creek, in Randolph county, in 1802. He became a man of prominence in those early days and is said to have held the office of sheriff for a short time. In the period of 1803-09 he served as county commissioner, and also as county clerk of Randolph county, being the third man to hold that office. The public records make no mention of him as sheriff, but in the official list of surveyors the name of Paul Harrolson is third in order. His appointment by Gov. Edwards to the latter office was dated April 7, 1814. In the absence of proofs of his Swedish origin, we can merely suppose that he was a Swedish descendant, whose name was originally written Haraldson.

In looking over the lists of members of the Illinois militia in the War of 1812, several names instantly impress one as being Swedish. One is that of Bankson—an Americanized form of Bengtson, common among the Delaware colonists. One of the eminent personages among the Delaware Swedes was Andrew Bankson. And here we find the same name, borne by a man who was a lieutenant in the Second Regi-

ment, from St. Clair county, before the war and during the war a private in a company of mounted riflemen. He was subsequently promoted second lieutenant under the name of Bankston, manifestly a misspelling.

On April 5, 1817, Andrew Bankson was appointed major of the second militia regiment by Ninian Edwards, the territorial governor, and on March 3, 1818, promoted colonel of the tenth militia. He resigned his colonelcy Sept. 9th following but the name of Col. Andrew Bankson reappears in the old records ten years later, in the list of thirty-three men chosen managers of McKendree College in 1828.

In the military lists are mentioned two other men of the same surname—James Bankson, sergeant of Capt. Nathan Chambers' company of infantry, and Patton Bankson, private in the same company. One Elijah Bankson was a brother of Andrew and Patton Bankson. Not unnaturally the inference may be drawn that these were descendants of Delaware families of the same name, but the probability, admittedly slight, is not strengthened by the known fact that the Banksons here encountered came to Illinois from Tennessee.

Among the comrades of Andrew Bankson was one David Eckman. That he was a Swede or of Swedish descent cannot be doubted. Of him we know nothing more than this, that he voluntarily shouldered the musket and risked his life to protect the community against its foes. Again, in the list of privates in the Fourth Regiment we find two names with a decidedly Swedish ring—John and Andrew Hallin. These men, presumably brothers, were members of Capt. Dudley Williams' company of the Fourth Illinois Militia.

Jacob Falström, Frontiersman and Missionary

In the Northwest Territory there lived among the Indians for about forty years, dating from the early part of the nineteenth century, a Swede by the name of Jacob Falström. He seems to have come to the West contemporaneously with Raphael Widen and is said to have arrived in Minnesota prior to the year 1819. Falström was born in Stockholm, July 25th in the year 1793 or 1795. He left home at twelve or fourteen years of age and went to sea with his uncle. Stories differ as to how he came to emigrate. One version has it that he lost his way in London and, unable to find his way back to his uncle's ship, took passage to America; another that he ran away from his uncle, who was cruel to him, both agreeing that he landed in Canada. Col. Hans Mattson, who met Falström at St. Paul in 1854, says that the boy deserted a Swedish ship in the port of Quebec and, picking his way through the wilderness, sought refuge among the Indians. He was content to stay among the redskins and ultimately became more closely

allied with the natives by marrying into one of their tribes. He was a man well-known to the Hudson Bay Company, and to the early settlers in the upper Mississippi valley.

Falström, who spoke French and several Indian languages, was employed by the American Fur Company to trade with the natives around Lake Superior. With his Indian wife he had several children. Some of his descendants are still living in Washington county, Minn., where Falström staked a claim in 1837. In relating his experience to Col. Mattson, he stated that for about thirty-five years, or until he met the first Swedish settlers in the St. Croix valley, he had not heard a word of Swedish spoken and as a consequence had almost completely lost command of his native tongue. During his later years Falström was very religious and for a long time acted as a missionary among the Indians, apparently affiliating with Methodism. As a missionary he probably antedated all other Swedish pioneer preachers in the West. Falström passed away in the year 1859. He exerted but little of a civilizing influence, and his descendants are said to live in semi-savagery to this day.

Christian Benson, the First Swedish Farmer in Illinois

In the year 1835 a Swedish pioneer of Illinois arrived in the person of Christian Benson, who, however, made no mark in public life, but lived quietly as a farmer.

He was born in Göteborg in 1805, went to sea at the age of seven and followed that occupation until his thirtieth year. He first came to America in 1819. In 1827 he married Maria Bantherson at Providence, R. I. Later he returned to his seafaring life, coming to America for the third time in 1835. That year he settled in Portland township, Whiteside county, Illinois, not far from the present city of Rock Island, and went to farming. In his old age he was cared for by his two children. Benson was the first known Swedish farmer in the state. He was still living in 1880 and was spoken of as a stanch adherent of the Republican party.

Jonas Hedström, the First Swedish Clergyman in Illinois

Among the first Swedes to set foot on Illinois soil was Jonas Hedström. As Widen had acquired prominence in the field of politics, so Hedström became renowned as a pioneer in church work. He was the first man to preach the gospel in the Swedish language here and became the founder and pioneer of Swedish Methodism in the West.

An elder brother, Olof Gustaf Hedström, persuaded Jonas to emigrate to America. The elder Hedström was born in Tvinnesheda, Nottebäck parish, Smaland, May 11, 1803. The parents were Corporal Hed-

ström and his wife Karin, who had four sons besides Olof Gustaf, and two daughters. The eldest son was put to work as a tailor's apprentice at an early age, but in 1825, at the age of twenty-two, he left the old country and came to the United States the following year. His trip across the Atlantic was made under remarkable circumstances. He became secretary to the commander of a frigate named "af Chapman," one of the Swedish war vessels sold to the republic of Colombia, to be used by that and other South American colonies in their war for independence against Spain. This transaction, as every one familiar with Swedish history knows, caused international complications and came



Olof Gustaf Hedström

near involving Sweden in war. This, however, was averted when a later sale of three other warships was annulled. The frigate "af Chapman," which departed from Karlskrona in the summer of 1825 arrived safely at Cartagena, Colombia, but orders awaited Commodore C. R. Nordenskiöld, its commander, not to transfer the ship to the Colombian government. In March, 1826, the frigate was ordered from Cartagena to New York, where the expedition disbanded after numerous difficulties and complications, and the vessel was sold. Having been fully paid, the crew were granted passage back to Sweden, but young Hedström and several others chose to remain in New York.

Hedström had no intention of remaining permanently, but a misfortune forced him to do so. The same day that the crew was paid and mustered out of service, Hedström and a number of comrades went

ashore to see the city, and at night they took lodging at a hotel for seamen. When he woke up in the morning he found to his chagrin that he had been robbed of everything, even to his clothes. He told his hostess, an Irishwoman, of his misfortune and she kindly procured



Jonas Hedstrom

a suit of clothes for him. Destitute as he was, a journey to Sweden was out of the question, so he submitted to fate and remained where he was.

The trade he had learned in Sweden now proved very useful to him. He was employed by an American tailor, Townsend by name,

and after a year or two he secured employment as cutter, earning good wages. In the same shop was employed a young woman, Caroline Pinckney, a cousin of Townsend, to whom Hedström was married June 11, 1829. She was of the Methodist faith, and through her influence Hedström a few weeks later joined that denomination, becoming at once an ardent worker in the church. Later he removed to Pittsville, Pa., where he opened a tailor shop of his own. The venture proved rather unsuccessful, causing him to sell out his stock. He returned to Sweden in 1833 apparently with a view to awakening his parents to their spiritual wants, a mission in which he seemed to have been successful.

On the return voyage the same year Hedström brought with him his younger brother Jonas, born Aug. 13, 1813; and at that time a youth of twenty. The trip was a perilous one. One awful night, when death seemed to lurk on every side, the younger Hedström underwent a total change spiritually, to the great joy of the elder brother. On their arrival in America, Olof Gustaf Hedström began to preach; in 1835 he was received, on probation, into the New York Conference of the Methodist-Episcopal Church; for ten years he labored as itinerant preacher among the American Methodists in the Catskill region. By dint of his fiery and convincing eloquence, equalled by few, he met with great success. It was, however, not among the American population, but among his own countrymen and other Scandinavians, that he was to perform his life-work. In 1844 he entered into earnest correspondence with friends in New York with reference to the opening of a new Methodist mission among the large numbers of Scandinavian seamen who annually visit that port and among the immigrants and the few Swedes that had already settled in New York City. The ship "Henry Leeds" was purchased with money subscribed for that purpose, the vessel remodeled as a mission ship with chapel and Sunday school rooms, re-named the "John Wesley" and anchored at suitable points in the North River. In this mission ship, better known as the Bethel ship, Hedström conducted the first services on Whitsunday, May 25, 1845. He was ably assisted by several others, among whom Peter Bergner, a former sailor and ship's carpenter. In 1857 a new Bethel ship took the place of the old one, but Hedström remained at his post. He made occasional trips to other ports, and founded the Swedish Methodist-Episcopal churches at Jamestown, N. Y., and Chandler's Valley, Pa., in 1851, and at Chicago the following year. In the summer of 1863 he re-visited Sweden, preaching in many places to large concourses of interested listeners. He labored without interruption until 1875 when he was forced to retire owing to failing health, but still retained much of his former fire and vigor even in old age. Hedström died in New York City May 5, 1877, at the age of 74. A hand-

some monument in Greenwood Cemetery, Brooklyn, marks his last resting place. By his side reposes his beloved wife, who died in 1890 at the ripe age of eighty-six years. They had three children, one being Dr. Wilbur Hedström, who is still living.

We have traced the life of the elder Hedström thus minutely by reason of its intimate connection with that of the younger brother, to whose career we now turn.

Jonas Hedström remained for a short time in New York, then spent some years in Pennsylvania, where he earned his living in the blacksmith's trade, and a very good blacksmith was he. At this time he formed the acquaintance of a family by the name of Sornberger which soon afterward removed to Knox county, Ill. The young Swedish artisan had formed an attachment for Diantha Sornberger, a daughter in the family, and in 1837 or 1838 Hedström followed. After marrying his affianced, he removed to the little village of Farmington, in Fulton county, where he opened a blacksmith shop. Shortly afterwards he began preaching, having been duly licensed by the local authorities of the Methodist Church. His license was renewed the next year. Later he removed to Knox county and became one of the founders of the town of Victoria, where he lived at the time of the first Swedish immigration to Illinois, and continued to reside until his death. By diligent and skillful application to his trade, he there acquired a sufficient income to build a rather comfortable home, where many a poor immigrant and weary wayfarer enjoyed hospitable entertainment. And he preached as energetically as he sledged. During the years following, he preached in the English language to the Americans in the various school-houses round about Victoria as well as in the neighboring towns of Lafayette, Knoxville and others. There being no Swedish settlers in that region or in any other part of the state at this time, he had no occasion to preach the Gospel in his mother tongue. By constant disuse, the Swedish language was gradually forgotten by him; but when in the early summer of 1845 he received a letter from his brother saying that he had been appointed missionary to the Scandinavian seamen and had already begun preaching in the Swedish language, it occurred to the younger brother that he also ought to revive his mother tongue, in order that he might expound the Gospel to the Swedish immigrants which his brother predicted soon would begin to arrive and settle in those parts. He, therefore, procured first a copy of the New Testament in Swedish and English, then a Swedish Bible complete, and fell to study his forgotten native tongue with great assiduity. His brother's predictions were soon fulfilled. Group after group of Swedish immigrants arrived at New York, where they were first met by the elder Hedström, who took a keen interest in their temporal as well as their spiritual welfare. With his knowledge of conditions in

Illinois, acquired through his brother, he was in a position to recommend that region as a desirable place of settlement. Many were they who followed his advice, journeying westward to Victoria where the younger Hedström stood ever ready to assist. By renewed use, in the next few years he again acquired the ability to speak the Swedish tongue fluently.

Although great tracts of good agricultural land were to be had much nearer, large numbers of Swedish immigrants came all the way to Illinois, owing to the activity of the brothers Hedström. To them is due also no small share of credit for the continued influx of Swedes into this state. But there is a third Swedish pioneer who, as we will presently see, played an important part in directing Swedish immigrants to Illinois.

Hedström preached his first sermon in the Swedish language Dec. 15, 1846, in a little blockhouse in the woods, about three miles southeast of the present town of Victoria, the occasion being the organization of the first Swedish Methodist Church. This congregation, started with five members, was also the first church organization of Swedish nationality in this country since the time of the Delaware settlements. The Erik Janssonists of Bishop Hill, who will be dealt with in the following chapter, had begun to arrive in July of the same year and constituted a sort of religious band, but could not as yet be said to exist as a church in the strict sense of the word. The Methodist propaganda among the Swedish settlers grew apace under the direction of Hedström, several new churches being founded in the course of the next few years. This growth will be more fully shown in the chapter dealing especially with Swedish Methodism in Illinois.

Owing to his restless endeavors and the great privations attending his constant travels in the service of his cause, Hedström's health broke down, compelling his retirement in the fall of 1857. His powers continued to wane, and on May 11, 1859, he ended his useful career, dying at the age of nearly 46 years. His body was buried in the Victoria cemetery, where a monument was placed upon his grave. His wife died in 1874 and was buried at his side. The pair had five children, two of whom are thought to be still living, viz., Luther Hedström and Mrs. Becker.

Hedström has been very differently judged according to the sectarian viewpoints of those making the estimate. By his adversaries he has been made out a lying, cheating, deceitful, fanatical and selfish person, while his close friends and brethren in the faith, on the other hand, ascribe to him every virtue and set him up as a model of perfection. Both sides, however, appear to have exaggerated his personal traits. During this early and formative period in our history, the lines were sharply drawn between the different religious groups.

To respect the opinions of others these early settlers had not yet learned, and intolerance reigned supreme. Hedström was fanatically devoted to Methodism and did everything in his power to disseminate its teachings among his countrymen. Possessing a greater proportion of zeal and enthusiasm than of erudition and good judgment, he frequently, by a lack of deference and tact, gave rise to serious controversies with representatives of other denominations, themselves devoid of spiritual moderation. That he acted from pure motives and with a sincere purpose of benefiting his fellowmen, no one, however bigoted, can deny.

As his elder brother, O. G. Hedström, may be styled the father of Swedish Methodism, and the Bethel ship in New York harbor its cradle, so Jonas Hedström may with equal justice be called the founder and pioneer of Methodism among the Swedes of the West, and the rude blockhouse near Victoria the starting-point of his endeavors. Jonas Hedström was not only the first Swedish preacher in Illinois, but the first Swedish exponent of material progress in these regions. For these reasons his name will always have a prominent place in the history of the Swedes in the state and in the entire country.

O. G. Lange, the First Swede in Chicago

O. G. Lange was another early Swedish pioneer of Illinois, and he also had the distinction of being the first known Swede in Chicago and Cook county.

Olof Gottfrid Lange was born July 4, 1811, in the city of Göteborg. July 27, 1824, he hired as cabin watch on an American brig, bound for Boston, where he landed Sept. 30th. He remained a sailor for more than ten years, serving in the American and the British navies.

In 1838 he abandoned the sea for the great West and arrived on Sept 18th at Chicago, which had received its city charter one year ago. If there had been any of his countrymen ahead of him, he would have had no difficulty in finding them, for at that time the city had a population of only 4,179. Several Norwegians, however, had settled here, and these he gave lessons in the English language, meeting his pupils at Fort Dearborn.

Later he opened a drug store near Chicago, at a point on the Illinois and Michigan Canal, which was then being dug. A severe attack of the ague soon caused him to give up the business, whereupon he went to Milwaukee and became, as in Chicago, the first Swedish settler in the community. It was his privilege to receive Gustaf Unonius and his companions, when they arrived in Wisconsin in the fall of 1841. In Milwaukee Lange became the manager of a hardware store, owned by a man who later became governor of Wisconsin. After a short time, Lange went into business for himself in co-partnership

with one Hulbert Reed. It was at this time Fredrika Bremer, the Swedish authoress, visited the United States. When she left Chicago for Milwaukee in September, 1850, Lange received her into his home, entertained her for several days, and then accompanied her on a visit to the Pine Lake settlement founded by Gustaf Unonius.

Afterwards Lange became traveling representative of the Rathbone & Corning stove manufacturing company of Albany, N. Y. Having lived a short time in Charleston, S. C., he settled in Watertown,



Olof Gottfrid Lange

Wis., and became passenger agent for a section of the Chicago and Northwestern Railway. Not content with this occupation, Lange, who had cultivated a taste for change and variety, moved to Kenosha, Wis., in 1856 and there started a foundry which four years later was removed to the corner of Kingsbury and Michigan streets, Chicago. Thus Lange became a Chicagoan for the second time.

In 1866 he made a trip to Sweden for his health. On his return he brought a library of 500 volumes together with a number of art portfolios, for the Svea Society, a Swedish association already existing in Chicago. A large part of the collection was donated by

King Charles XV. of Sweden and his family. For this service to the society Lange was made an honorary member and presented with a valuable badge. The library of this society was totally destroyed in the great fire of 1871.

Lange is said to have tried his fortune at one time on the board of trade. The fact that he did not continue to trade on the board would seem to indicate that his venture was not successful. The last twenty-five years of his life he devoted to soliciting life insurance for various companies. With reference to the 250th anniversary of the landing of the Swedes on the Delaware, commemorated in the fall of 1888, Lange, in the issue of "The Swedish-American" for April 18, 1889, proposed that his countrymen in America annually celebrate "Forefathers' Day," and in many localities the suggestion was carried out during the next few years.

In July, 1893, the venerable pioneer had an attack of pneumonia and was prostrated at his home, 292 Irving ave., Chicago. During his illness he was visited by Rt. Rev. K. H. G. von Schéele, Bishop of Gotland, who, on his first tour of the United States, took the opportunity to bring cordial greetings from Lange's old schoolmates in the old country. July 13th, two days after this visit, Lange breathed his last. He reached the ripe age of 82 years. Having taken a deep interest in the Swedish fraternities, Nordstjernan, Balder and many others had, like Svea, conferred upon him honorary membership, and now showed their appreciation by sending large delegations to attend the obsequies. A bronze bust in memory of him may be seen in the lodge hall of the Svea Society.

Lange, commonly called "Captain" Lange, presumably on account of his early career as a sailor, was one of those Swedes who are not ashamed of their nationality. Although having spent the greater part of his life away from his native country, he never forgot or concealed his Swedish nativity, but took every occasion to glory in the fact and extol all that is best in Swedish character and culture. The best proof of the genuineness of his Swedish patriotism is found in his proposal of a Swedish "Forefathers' Day" celebration. Being kind-hearted and generous, he gave freely, but without ostentation, to his less fortunate fellows. He was twice married, his first wife dying early. With his second wife, Catharine O'Brien from Ireland, he was united April 23, 1843, the golden anniversary of that occasion occurring a few months before his demise. Mrs. Lange was a lady of refinement. Fredrika Bremer describes her as "a kindly little Irishwoman." They had five children, one son and four daughters. The eldest daughter was the wife of B. A. E. Landergren, deceased, who was for many years chief deputy in the Internal Revenue office at Chicago.

Sven Nelson, the Recluse of Andover

The next Swede to arrive in Illinois, following Lange, was doubtless Sven Nelson, like two of his predecessors a sailor. He came to the state in 1840 and settled in Andover, Henry county, a settlement founded five years before by Americans from the East. There he dwelt in peace and almost perfect seclusion for almost forty years, dying in the late seventies.

Nelson in the latter forties married a woman known by the name of Stigs Lena, who in 1849 came over from Hassela, Helsingland, with a party of Erik Janssonists.

Gustaf Flack, the First Swedish Merchant in Chicago

Following Sven Nelson, the next Swedish immigrant to Illinois was Gustaf Flack from Alfta parish, Helsingland. The year of his arrival is unknown, as also his early life here. In the early forties we find him in Victoria, Ill., and in 1843 in Chicago, where he owned a small store near the ferry landing at Clark st. His stay in Chicago and America was cut short by his return in 1846, to Sweden, where he suddenly died on the way from the city of Gefle to his native home. During his sojourn in Illinois, Flack wrote letters to his friends at home freely lauding this state and predicting for it great future prosperity. His glowing descriptions primarily caused the Erik Janssonists to emigrate and settle here. Flack thus shares with the Hedström brothers the credit for directing the main current of early Swedish immigration to the Prairie State.

The Pine Lake Settlement in Relation to Swedish Immigration to Illinois

While only individual Swedes kept moving into Illinois, Gustaf Unonius and others in the early forties founded at Pine Lake, in the neighboring state of Wisconsin, the first Swedish settlement in America since the time of the Delaware Swedes. The history of this settlement and of its founder sustain so intimate a relation to that of the Illinois settlements as to merit a brief sketch in this connection.

Gustaf Elias Marius Unonius was born Aug. 25, 1810, in Helsingfors, the son of Israel Unonius, a barrister, and Maria Gårdberg, his wife. The father came of an old Swedish family in Finland, and removed to Sweden when Finland was ceded to Russia. He became postmaster and revenue collector at Grisslehamn. A military career was mapped out for the son, who at thirteen became a cadet at the Karlberg military school. Among his comrades were C. F. Ridderstad, Georg Adlersparre, and Wilhelm von Braun, whom he joined in literary pur-

suits, the results of which appeared in the literary periodicals of that time.

Young Unonius soon left the military academy for Upsala, where he finished his college course in 1830 and the course in law three years later. He subsequently entered upon a course fitting him for practice before the highest courts of the realm, but when in 1834 a cholera epidemic caused the closing of the sessions at the university, he took a position as assistant physician at one of the pest houses of Stockholm and became interested in that profession. When the epidemic subsided, he returned to Upsala to take up medical studies, but shortly afterwards he again left the university to take a position in the provincial government offices at Upsala.



Gustaf Unonius

In 1841 he was married to Charlotta Margareta Öhrströmer, and soon afterwards, for reasons known only to himself, he decided to emigrate. On May 11th of that year the couple left Upsala for Gefle to embark for America together with a small company of friends and acquaintances. In the party were, an old maid-servant from the home of Mrs. Unonius, Christine by name, Ivar Hagberg, a young student of twenty-one, and a relative of Unonius by the name of Carl Groth. According to the statement of Unonius himself, he and his company were the first to take advantage of a recent decree granting the right to leave the country without obtaining a special permit from the crown

For some reason the vessel did not get ready to weigh anchor until June 3rd. The vessel was named "Minnet," and its captain was C. J. Bohlin, with whom Unonius had contracted for passage for the entire party to the port of New York for a total sum of five hundred Swedish crowns, the passengers to supply their own provisions. Before they got ready to sail, still another person joined them, viz., one Vilhelm Polman, a former university student. The ship carried a cargo of iron. Having made the ports of Elsinore (Helsingör) and Portsmouth, the vessel finally reached its destination Sept. 10th, three months and seven days after weighing anchor. The emigrants stopped for a week



Unonius' Cabin at Pine Lake

in New York, where a Swedish merchant, named Brodell, together with the captain, who spoke English, rendered them every assistance. Inquiries were made as to the most suitable location for a Swedish settlement, and upon learning that large tracts of cheap land were to be had in Illinois, it was decided to settle there, whereupon arrangements were made for transportation to Chicago at $12 a person.

They started on their journey inland Sept. 17th, going by steamboat up the Hudson to Albany, thence via the Erie canal to Buffalo. Here they encountered fresh difficulties, the captains of the lake steamers refusing to recognize the validity of their tickets. Finally, through the good offices of one Morell, a Swedish jeweler who had spent many years in America, they were able to continue on their way, and went by boat to Detroit. Here Hagberg separated from the company and went to Cleveland, while the others proceeded across lakes St. Clair, Huron and Michigan, past Fort Mackinaw, to Milwaukee. Being now weary of travel, and having been told that Wisconsin was preferable

to Illinois for agricultural purposes, they determined to stop here, after having spent two weeks on the way from New York. They took lodging at the principal hotel, where they found, first a Norwegian servant girl with whom they were able to communicate, and later met their countryman, Captain O. G. Lange, who had emigrated several years before.

After several days of rest, Unonius left the women in charge of a German family and, accompanied by Lange, set out to inspect the country. The date was Oct. 7, 1841. At that time Wisconsin was still a territory, with a population estimated at 45,000. The prospectors traveled afoot westward through forests and over prairies a distance of thirty miles, eventually reaching the dwellingplace of a man named Pearmain, for whom they had letters from the land office at Milwaukee. He lived in a log cabin, the first of its kind seen by the prospective settlers. With Pearmain as guide they traversed the surrounding country and, after a long and wearisome journey on foot, reached the shores of a picturesque little lake, called Pine Lake, from the fact that its shores were fringed with pine.

The lake was about two miles in length, with sloping, well-drained shores. Finding the region fertile and picturesque, the travelers determined to search no farther. The soil was found to be a deep black loam, mixed with clay; near the shores of the lake, the surface was rolling, gradually changing to a level and easily cultivated prairie.

Here the settlers determined to found their long wished for home. They selected a tract of land owned by a canal company which, having discontinued work on the canal, was likely to forfeit its title to the property, and on the advice of Pearmain and Lange they staked as their claim the west half of Section 33, Township 8, Range 18, expecting to get full possession under the pre-emption law, when after two or three years the title should revert to the government.

They now returned to Milwaukee and, having procured provisions, the pioneers, accompanied by Mrs. Unonius and the maid-servant, traveled back to the chosen site in a wagon, drawn by a yoke of oxen. The women got temporary lodging in the simple home of Pearmain, located on the present site of the city of Delafield, and the men began to open a road to the new homestead and to erect a loghouse. For temporary shelter they built a hut of logs, piled on one another in a square, and with a covering of dried grass. After Unonius had made another trip to Milwaukee and purchased a stove and other indispensable household articles, the family moved into their new home Nov. 11th, exactly six months after their departure from Upsala. Of the toil and the trials of pioneer life these people got their full share. Although coming from the so called better class in the old country and being as such unaccustomed to hard work and privations, they never lost heart,

but labored arduously on, breaking ground, cutting down trees, building fences, patching up their dwelling, and building a shed for their yoke of oxen and one cow. The settlers celebrated their first Christmas in America with joy and contentment over the things already accomplished but with tender memories of the old home and those left behind.

The winter was bitterly cold, with severe storms and much snow, and the cultivation of the soil could not begin until late in April. That spring Polman, who had shared the cabin with the others, left them to begin the practice of medicine in a more populous neighborhood a few miles away. He had studied medicine in Sweden and proved quite successful, possessing, as he did, a far greater knowledge of the profession than the average doctor in the West at that time.

The Swedes at Pine Lake gradually formed the acquaintance of surrounding settlers, and in the late spring they had a visit from an American clergyman of the Episcopal Church who had started a mission a few miles distant.

True, these early settlers did not always have food in plenty, nor of the most nourishing kind, but they never suffered actual want. Game was plentiful in the surrounding forests, and occasional hunting trips were made with good results. Fishing in the lake also proved profitable to the family larder. The cow supplied all the milk needed, and through barter and trade with the neighbors several pigs, a quantity of corn, potatoes, rutabagas and other necessaries were procured.

One day the settlers were surprised by some very distinguished visitors viz., Baron Thott from Skåne, Mr. E. Bergvall from Göteborg, and one Wadman, a retired merchant from Norrköping. The baron and Mr. Bergvall each purchased a piece of land in the neighborhood, while Mr. Wadman returned to Milwaukee to seek employment in some line of business. About the same time one B. Peterson, a shoemaker, arrived, obtained lodging with Unonius, and began to ply his trade in the settlement.

New settlers thus kept coming, but the main influx began when Unonius in correspondences to Swedish newspapers described the conditions in Wisconsin, and especially the facilities offered emigrants to acquire their own homes. Not only Swedes, but Norwegians and Danes emigrated and settled there. Among the first to arrive from Sweden was a lieutenant in the army, a good singer, who often cheered the hearts of the colonists by singing the songs and ditties of their fatherland. Ivar Hagberg, his traveling companion, came there for a visit, bought a piece of land, but for some reason was compelled to return to Sweden, and never came back. Among other Swedish visitors to the settlement about this time were one Ihrmark, a man of sixty, who had settled in Illinois, and a man from Göteborg, by the name of O. E. Dreutzer. The latter lived for many years in Wisconsin, attaining a

respected position in his community. Another Swede, named Erick Wester, a veritable adventurer, whose true name was supposed to be Westergren, visited the colony in the alleged capacity of a Methodist minister, preaching here and there in the homes, but without noteworthy success. Entirely destitute, he left Wisconsin in 1850 for Illinois, settling in Princeton, where he fell into bad repute among his fellow countrymen on account of repeated acts of fraud and dishonesty in business. From Princeton he went to Dallas, Texas, and his career is little known from that time on. This adventurer will reappear in another part of this history.

Some time later, a student from Vestergötland, Björkander by name, and a number of others arrived from Sweden and settled at Pine Lake. Simultaneously, many Norwegians, hardy, industrious folk, but mostly without means, came there directly from their native land. The Swedes settled east and the Norwegians west of the lake, around whose wooded shores thus sprang up a miniature Scandinavia. The two nationalities here, as at home, had their petty differences, resulting in frequent disputes and neighborhood quarrels. The Norwegians surpassed the Swedes both numerically and in point of industry and enterprise.

As previously indicated, the Swedish settlers were mostly of the bourgeoisie class, such as army officers, college men, and decadent noblemen, all of whom were unaccustomed to work in the old country and, when driven to it by necessity in the new land, soon tired of a task that seemed to them both odius and barren of immediate returns. For these reasons many remained in the colony only a short time, leaving for other parts in the hope of better prospects or a change of luck. Carl Groth went to New Orleans, where he established himself as a cigar and news dealer. The old maid-servant Christine became the wife of a Norwegian settler and left the Unonius home to found her own household. In this manner the settlers were dispersed; in a short time the founder of the settlement stood alone with his faithful wife and the children who had grown up in the course of years. Not long afterwards, Unonius himself deserted the colony, and the lands formerly owned by the Swedes came into the possession of Norwegians and Americans.

To complete the story of this historic Swedish settlement, we take pleasure in appending some excerpts from the description given by Fredrika Bremer, the Swedish authoress, of her visit to Pine Lake.

It was on a bright, warm Sunday morning, Sept. 29, 1850, that the authoress arrived, accompanied by Captain Lange. The little Swedish colony was already broken up, but a half dozen families still remained, earning their livelihood by farming. During the one day she spent in the settlement, several Swedish families were visited. All seemed to

be in limited circumstances, most of them living in log cabins. Among the more fortunate ones was a blacksmith and "one Mr. Bergvall, who had belonged to the genteel class in Sweden, but turned out an excellent farmer on American soil." He had, continues the authoress, "the prettiest, most charming and amiable young wife, with cheeks of a fresh ruddiness, such as one seldom sees in America. This was a happy



Fredrika Bremer

and cheerful home, a good Swedish home in the midst of the American wilderness. The dinner of which I partook was delicious in all its simplicity, better than any I had eaten in the big, pretentious American hotels. Delicious milk, excellent bread and butter, the most toothsome seafowl, fine cakes, the hearty hospitality, the bright good cheer, and the Swedish language well spoken by everyone, all these things combined to make the simple meal a veritable feast." The widowed Mrs. Petterson, mother of Mrs. Bergvall, lived in the oldest house in the Pine Lake settlement. There Fredrika Bremer passed the evening and the following night. There were gathered "one and twenty Swedes who spent the evening with games, songs and dances, in genuine Swedish

fashion. I felt happy to be with these my countrymen, happy to find them true Swedish folk still, although strangers in a strange land. And then I read to the assembled company that pretty little Norse 'Tale of the Pinetree,' by H. C. Andersen, at the conclusion of which I requested them to sing some Swedish folksongs. The fresh Northern voices had lost nothing in clearness in the atmosphere of the New World. My heart filled with tenderness as the men, with strong, clear voices, sang: 'Upp, svear, för konung och fädernesland,' and followed it up with several other old patriotic anthems. Swedish hospitality I found here as genuine, Swedish mirth and song rang as true as ever in our native land. Finally all joined in singing the old hymn: 'Nu hvilar hela jorden,' whereupon all broke up, bidding each other goodbye with firm clasping of hands and hearty good wishes."

The first Swedish Lutheran clergyman in America since the time of the Delaware colony for a time lived and labored in the Pine Lake settlement. His name was Peter Vilhelm Böckman. He was born Dec. 5, 1806, and was the son of a clergyman in the parish of Söder-Hviddinge, in the province of Skane. He was graduated from college in 1824 and entered the ministry several years later. With the aid of private persons in Sweden, he came to this country, presumably in 1844, to minister to the spiritual wants of the Scandinavian emigrants, and eventually drifted to the settlement at Pine Lake. Without success, he sought to unite the settlers into one congregation, thereby causing a conflict with Unonius. After having vainly sought admission to the American Episcopal Church, he visited various Swedish settlements as a traveling physician, having studied medicine in his youth. Finally he returned to Sweden, where he died in Göteborg, Oct. 3, 1850. Böckman seems to have been a man actuated by pure motives but lacking in energy and the genius of organization, qualities indispensable to a clergyman, especially in the days of the pioneers.

Before concluding this sketch, we are constrained to add that the letters of Unonius, which appeared in Swedish newspapers, besides inducing emigration by members of the Swedish bourgeoisie, caused a company of fifty persons to emigrate from Haurida, in Smaland. The voyage was made in the sailing vessel "Superior" which landed them at Boston after ten weeks. All but one traveled from Boston to Sheboygan, Wis., and thence scattered to various parts of the state. Next to that of Unonius, this was the earliest company of Swedish emigrants during the eighteenth century.

Unonius and his family at length removed to Chicago. His further career will be recounted later in connection with the history of the Swedish Episcopal Church in Illinois. We now proceed to tell the story of another member of the Pine Lake colony, one who, like

Unonius, was destined to play a prominent part among the earliest Swedes in Illinois.

P. von Schneidau, First Swedish Vice-Consul in Chicago

Polycarpus von Schneidau was born in 1812, being the son of Major von Schneidau of Kisa, Östergötland. While still a very young man, he was enrolled in the Svea Artillery, and was soon made lieutenant. As such, he served at Fort Vaxholm during the summer of 1833, when he became one of the chief actors in an episode which attracted much attention at the time.

That summer certain naval surveys were carried on in the Baltic sea by the mutual agreement between the Swedish and the Russian governments. The chief of the Russian section, M. Schubert, when the operations brought them near Stockholm, expressed a desire to visit the Swedish capital. King Charles XIV. John granted the request and sent orders to Col. Anders Israel Pancheen, the commander at Fort Vaxholm, to permit the Russian flagship "Hercules" to pass the fort unmolested. The royal orders, however, did not relieve the ship of the ordinary duties of warcraft, such as laying to under the walls of a fort in order to report to its commander and show its papers.

So one day a warship hove in sight in the channel and approached Vaxholm with a full head of steam. The Russian flag designated its nationality, but nothing served to indicate that it was the "Hercules." When the steamer got within reach of the guns of the fort, still going with full speed, it was signaled to stop, but paid no attention to the warning. This was a breach of international naval law and a gratuitous insult to the flag that waved above the ramparts of the Swedish fort. Consequently, the commander ordered Lieutenant von Schneidau to open fire on the foreigner. Two shots were fired as a warning, but without the desired effect. The man of war steamed ahead undisturbed. Then the commander ordered the lieutenant to aim at the wheelhouse of the intruder and fire. The order was carried out to the letter. Lieutenant von Schneidau himself fired the shot, which shattered the wheelhouse of the "Hercules" into smithereens. Consternation reigned on deck, and a few moments later a boat shot out from the side of the damaged ship and made directly for shore under the walls of the fort. An officers stepped ashore, hurried to the commander and explained indignantly that the vessel was the "Hercules," which had permission to pass. Col. Pancheen shrugged his shoulders and expressed regret at not being informed of the fact in the regular way. A quarter of an hour after the Russian officer had returned on board, two boats, one from the fort, the other from the "Hercules," started in a race for Stockholm. In the former was Lieutenant von Schneidau, in the latter the same officer who had carried the message to the fort. The

Swedish lieutenant urged his men to the utmost exertion, and won the race. Arriving in Stockholm, he hastened to Count Magnus Brahe, the king's interpreter and confidential adviser, told his story, and requested the count to repeat it to the king. Count Brahe, greatly excited, at once sought the presence of his majesty. A few moments later, Lieutenant von Schneidau was called in and asked to give a minute account of what had transpired. When he told of the effective shot at the foreigner's wheelhouse, the old monarch showed signs of



Polycarpus von Schneidau

pleasure and requested the narrator to carry back a royal greeting to Col. Pancheen and tell him that he had acted like a man and that the king was entirely satisfied with the affair. When von Schneidau left the royal palace, he met the Russian minister, accompanied by the officer from the "Hercules," hurrying to lodge their complaints with the same high tribunal.

Lieutenant von Schneidau was a gallant officer, eminently fitted for his calling, nevertheless, his military career was soon interrupted. He was compelled to resign and leave his country almost a fugitive, not on account of any crime, but for the mere act of marrying a Jewess below

his station in life, and thereby, as it was held, putting a blot on the honor of the military corps. It will be remembered that at this time the Jews did not enjoy the rights and the social position and privileges in Sweden since accorded them. Lieutenant von Schneidau had an early acquaintance with Unonius, and in 1842 joined his little colony, purchasing a piece of land at the south end of the lake. His wife and her mother arrived later and for a time all found a home in the log cabin of Unonius.

The young officer's prospects of success here were scant. He was not fitted for farming, an old injury to one of his legs incapacitating him for physical labor. Circumstances conspired against him, and in 1845 he removed to Chicago, where he hoped more easily to earn a living. His presumption proved correct. Being a skillful civil engineer, he soon obtained profitable employment. When in 1848 work began on the first railroad out of Chicago, the Chicago and Galena Railway, now a branch of the Northwestern system, von Schneidau was made superintendent of construction. On her American tour under the management of P. T. Barnum, in 1850, Jenny Lind, the great singer, furnished von Schneidau the money wherewith to purchase a French daguerreotype apparatus with supplies, and he then established a daguerreotype studio, the first of its kind in Chicago and, doubtless, in the entire West. He thus became the pioneer photographer in this part of the country.

After Swedish and Norwegian immigration to Chicago and vicinity had acquired greater proportions in the early fifties, von Schneidau was appointed Swedish and Norwegian vice consul here in 1854, being the first to hold that office. His official duties he discharged with the greatest efficiency. The numerous immigrants, many of whom were poor or afflicted with sickness, found in him a friend and benefactor. In his work for the welfare of his countrymen he had in his faithful wife an able assistant, who has been described as a loveable and noble-hearted woman.

Von Schneidau's illness was gradually aggravated, and soon he was unable to attend to his consular duties. He consequently resigned the office, to which his old friend Unonius succeeded. On Dec. 28, 1859, von Schneidau died, not quite forty-eight years of age. His wife had passed away the year before. This venerable pair is still cherished in loving remembrance by the early Swedish citizens of Chicago.

As the letters of Unonius, published in the newspapers of the old country, had caused the exodus of a company of emigrants from Smaland, so von Schneidau's letters to his father in Kisa, Östergötland, early induced emigration from that part of Sweden. The contents of these letters were reported far and wide throughout the neighborhood, giving rise to much speculation as to the great West and the promises

it held out to settlers. Discussion soon ripened into decision with some of the most determined ones, who emigrated under the leadership of one Peter Hassel, a miller. Besides Hassel, the company consisted of Peter Andersson, his brother-in-law, one John Danielson, a Mr. Berg, and an old sailor by the name of Dahlberg, the last two from Stockholm, and one Åkerman, who had served in the American army, making five families all told. They made the voyage in 1845 in the brig "Superb," embarking at Göteborg and landing at New York. Their original intention was to go to Wisconsin, presumably to Pine Lake, but in New York they were told that they could find more suitable soil in Iowa, so they changed their destination. They traveled first to Philadelphia, thence to Pittsburg, where they took passage on a steamer down the Ohio River, and then proceeded up the Mississippi as far as Burlington, Iowa. From that point they journeyed forty-two miles over the country and founded New Sweden, in Jefferson county, the first Swedish settlement in Iowa. During the following years new groups of immigrants from the same part of Sweden kept continually coming; soon there sprang up neighboring settlements known as Swede Point, in Boone county, and Bergholm, in Wapello county. This opened the way to the influx of Swedes into Iowa during the subsequent decades, both directly from the old country and from the earlier settlements in Illinois.



CHAPTER IV.

The Bishop Hill Colony

Early History of Erik Janssonism

ABOUT 1840, there arose in Helsingland, Sweden, a peculiar religious sect, named Erik Janssonists from the founder, a farmer by the name of Erik Jansson. In order that the reader may fully understand the origin of the sect, it is necessary to describe briefly the religious conditions in that province just before and at the time of Erik Jansson's public appearance.

At that time spiritual decadence was general throughout Helsingland. Whisky distilling, as yet a lawful business for the peasantry, was carried on at almost every farmhouse, and drunkenness aided in brutalizing the minds and destroying domestic happiness. Particularly were the young people notorious for their unlicensed behavior. Brawls, thefts, and nocturnal orgies were common occurrences. The sturdiness and immutability characteristic of the Helsingland peasantry by no means served to mollify their brutality. Indeed, there were many outwardly pious folk, but their piety consisted primarily in observing certain religious customs, such as attending divine worship and partaking of the Lord's Supper. Many of the ministers were persons who made light of their duties as keepers of the flock. The majority of them lived a life of outward decency, but others showed even in their manners by what spirit they were governed, and not a few were steeped in drunkenness; others were so absorbed in political and municipal affairs or in agricultural pursuits that they neglected the duties of their calling.

In all this spiritual darkness, however, there were certain glimpses of light. For half a century the province had been the field of religious movements of various kinds, and although these had resulted in strife and disruption in many places, yet in a part of the population here and there in the villages they had awakened and sustained a true Christian life. The better class of ministers took an intelligent view of these

movements and encouraged them so far as seemed permissible. Here as elsewhere the pietistic movement, or revivalism, resulted in religious gatherings, called conventicles. People began to gather in private houses for mutual edification, devoting themselves to singing and praying, studying the Word of God, and discoursing on religious subjects. These gatherings were styled "samlingar" (meetings), and the participants were nicknamed "läsare" (readers), for their zealous study of religious books. The same name was soon applied to the followers of any revivalist movement in Sweden, no matter what was its origin.

While several of the more earnest and devoted clergymen allied themselves with the "readers," watched over their meetings, and guided them in their Bible studies and their worship, the worldly-minded portion of the clergy took either an indifferent or an inimical position anent the movement. Instead of endeavoring, through instruction and a kindly disposition, to lead aright the souls that felt spiritual hunger and thirst, they looked upon the conventicles as dangerous manifestations of dissension which ought to be suppressed by the aid of the law. In many instances the so-called Conventicle Placard* of 1726 was used as a means to this end. These attempts to assuage by injunctions and fines the thirst for spiritual enlightenment, which the people sought to quench at the fountain of Holy Writ and other religious writings, since the average clergyman offered them no other spiritual nourishment than the ordinary sermons, which the common people found dry and incomprehensible, seemed to the "readers" harsh and unreasonable; and there was justice in their complaint over the fact that while gatherings in private houses for the purpose of gambling, dancing, and other worldly pleasures were left unmolested, it was considered a crime to hold private meetings to praise and worship God.

In defiance of the letter of the law, the "readers" held their private religious meetings, taking the ground that so long as they were not guilty of heresy, the law did not apply. Holding as they did that the preaching of an unregenerate clergy could bear no good fruit, they recognized ministers of proven piety only. Although the conventicle law charged the clergy with the duty of conducting meetings in private houses, yet devout ministers who took the conventicles in their own hands would frequently incur the disfavor of the consistories, and worldly-minded or bigoted clergymen usually led in the persecution of the "readers."

It is not surprising that members of congregations having such ministers sought to satisfy their spiritual cravings by reading such

* A law designed to prevent the spread of heresy by forbidding all religious gatherings not conducted by the clergy or by parents, employers or heads of households exclusively for their own families and subordinates. Infractions were punishable by fines, imprisonment and banishment.

religious books as they had and by listening to preachers who arose from among the common people and claimed to give that which the clergy was unable to bestow. The bitter attacks made by some of the pietist writers ofttimes begot a fanatical hatred of the established church forms, and their criticisms of the conduct of the clergy frequently gave rise to wholesale denunciations of the state church.

The consequences of these religious movements were not slow to manifest themselves. In the parishes where the clergy had taken active part in the revival and gained the confidence of the "readers" by superintending and participating in the meetings, a considerable portion of the population soon became well versed in the Scriptures and capable of successfully combating any false teachings that self-appointed preachers might attempt to spread; but in many places the peasantry had been left entirely to themselves and had become accustomed to listen to revivalist preachers of various kinds, men of the working class, often without culture or experience, but endowed with a certain readiness of speech and an ample measure of self-assertiveness, who claimed to have become regenerated and to be under the direct guidance of the Holy Spirit. By their hideous depictions of hell and the sufferings of the condemned, and by scathing denunciations of all those whose views differed from their own, they contrived to hold their followers completely in their power, and masses of people followed them untiringly from place to place, from parish to parish. The "readers" possessed a certain amount of scriptural knowledge, but their reading was generally limited to modern religious writings; the Bible, being considered too difficult a book for the unlettered, was read only in exceptional cases or brought out as authority, when, in the meetings, some one sought to clinch some particular assertion or give added force to an admonition. For these reasons the revivalism of the Helsingland parishes was misdirected and became one-sided. It was not always characterized by that spiritual soundness, vitality, self-sacrificing love, kindness and forbearance, inseparable from the true life of faith, but frequently bred bigotry, intolerance, hypocrisy and self-righteousness.

These conditions had paved the way for a lay preacher of extraordinary power, who at first taught in full accord with the doctrines, though not the practices, of the state church and the beliefs of the "readers," but soon departed from the tenets of both, headed a new sect, was charged with heresy and presently found himself in open warfare with the authorities of church and state. This religious leader, a rather remarkable character in Swedish church history, was Erik Jansson—farmer, preacher, self-styled prophet, ambassador of God and restorer of the true Christian faith.

Erik Jansson's Youth and First Public Appearance

Erik Jansson was born December 19, 1808, in the village of Landsberga, in Biskopskulla parish, Upland. His parents, Jan Mattsson, a farmer, and his wife Sara Eriksson, lived in Thorstuna, but after their marriage in 1802 they rented a small farm in Landsberga. To them were born four sons, Johan, Erik, Peter and Karl, and one daughter, Anna Katarina. In 1820 they moved back to Thorstuna, and lived there until 1838, when Jan Mattsson, who had improved his condition materially by diligent application, purchased a farm, called Klockaregarden, in Österunda parish of the same province, where he lived with his family until his death in November, 1843, the estate then passing to his children. His boyhood and youth Erik Jansson spent at home. As a boy of eight, he was one day engaged in doing some hauling, when the horse took fright and ran away, overturning the wagon and throwing the boy violently to the ground, at which he received so hard a blow on the head that for several weeks he hovered between life and death. For many years after his recovery the boy suffered from severe headaches. This accident seemed to have had a marked effect on his mind. After that he was different from other children of his age, he avoided his former companions, and sought out some secluded spot where he would spend hours in tearful prayer. He claimed to be the most unhappy of children, for he could not, like them, join with zest in games and amusements. At the age of seventeen, he was prepared for admittance to the holy communion. To him this was a period of comparative peace of mind; the youth sought spiritual solace in the reading of the Bible and other religious books. However, he soon ceased, and when his old fears returned he vainly endeavored to dissipate them by joining the young people in dancing parties and similar amusements.

The parents resented the "silly notions" of their son and kept him hard at work, thinking that this would cure him. But the remedy had quite the contrary effect. He continued his melancholy ponderings and, besides, was taken physically ill with a severe attack of rheumatism. Things went on in this way until the summer of 1830, when Erik Jansson experienced his conversion proper. While on his way to the field one day with his father's horse, he had an acute attack of his complaint. Dismounting, he fell to the ground and lay for a while helpless. Then, according to his own assertion, he heard a voice, saying: "It is written, whatsoever ye ask in prayer, believing, that ye shall receive, for all is possible to him that believeth; and when ye cry, I shall answer, saith the Lord." At that he arose to his knees and prayed long and fervently; and from that moment he was entirely rid of his malady.

In another sense, that moment was of still greater significance to Erik Jansson, for then and there his spiritual conversion was accom-

plished, according to the narrative found in his autobiography. Sorely oppressed by his burden of sin, here in the solitude, he fled to Christ and felt that he had obtained remission of his sins and mental peace.

It is impossible to ascertain how complete was this regeneration, but that it was not a mere sham seems evident from the discourses on divine themes written by him about this time. However, Erik Jansson was not satisfied with the fact that he himself was awakened to spiritual life; he wanted others to be similarly awakened and, therefore, began the very next day after his conversion to preach the gospel to those about him. He continued preaching thus for four years. Meanwhile he sought, by home study, to add to his stock of knowledge, particularly as regards religious topics. Although Erik Jansson spent much time in reading, still he did not neglect his work, since he pursued his studies mostly at night. His favorite studies, aside from the Bible, were the works of Luther, Arndt, Nohrborg, Murbeck and other religious writers, with whom he thus became thoroughly familiar.

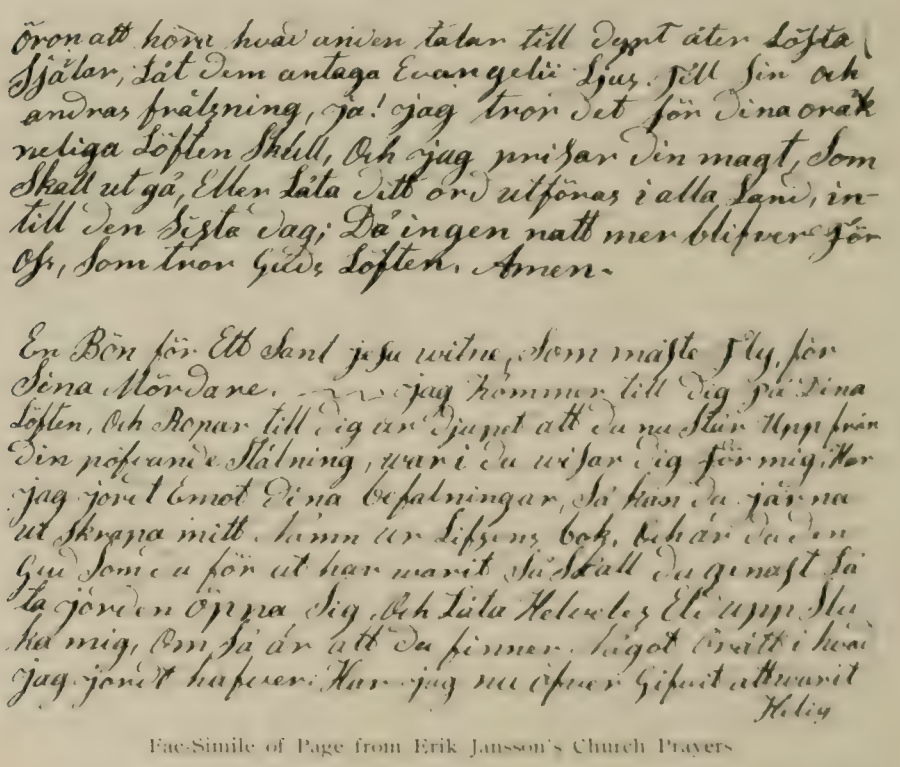
These studies, however, imbued Erik Jansson with a true sense of his own insignificance in the field of Lutheran teaching, so he determined to discontinue preaching altogether. It was especially from reading "True Christianity," by Johan Arndt, that he was, at least for a time, cured of his desire to preach, for he found a passage in that work admonishing people to stick to their calling instead of seeking to become the teachers of others.

About this time, Erik Jansson married Maria Kristina Larsson, a servant to his parents, who, like himself, was a devoted student of the Bible. The parents obstinately opposed the match for a long time, until circumstances forced them to permit the union. At this they took still greater offense, and when the son set up his own household they dismissed him curtly, a cow and a pig being the only dower. He was not discouraged, but began life on his own account by renting part of a farm in Vappeby, also going into business in a small way as a grain dealer in company with his oldest brother. He soon earned the reputation of being the best farmer in the neighborhood, and in spite of several crop failures he had done so well that in 1838 he was able to purchase the Lötorp estate, near Sånkarby, in Österunda parish, for one thousand crowns in cash. Here he is said to have lived in quiet seclusion for a time, working diligently on the farm, and trying to live the life of a humble Christian. At times, however, his former desire to preach returned, when he would publicly expound the Scriptures with power and ability, acquired doubtless through his extensive reading.

The Erik Jansson Dissenters

In the year 1840 occurred what Erik Jansson himself has termed his second conversion. Together with his youngest brother, Karl, he

went to the October fair in Upsala to sell cattle. The rowdy and ungodly conduct of the people attending the fair impressed him in a manner to awaken anew his desire to preach. Upon his return home, he consulted his pastor, Rev. J. J. Risberg, in the matter and from him received the advice to follow the inner call. About this time he deserted Luther, Arndt, as well as all other religious authors, for which he conceived an intense hatred, and kept to the Bible alone. Then he noted the overwhelming power and simplicity of Holy Writ, as compared with other writings, and he soon acquired the fixed conviction that the Bible alone ought to be read.* In the community where



Fac-Simile of Page from Erik Jansson's Church Prayers

he lived were held meetings at which Erik Jansson often appeared together with Risberg. This man as well as C. C. Estenberg, the adjunct clergyman of the parish, publicly lauded Erik Jansson in the most cordial terms, giving him every encouragement to continue his activity.

* It will be noticed that he soon changed his mind on this point by publishing books of his own. From wholesale condemnation of other printed interpretations of the Bible to the publication of his own, the step was easy for Erik Jansson on the ground that his was the divine and only true interpretation.

Erik Jansson's religious discourses soon began to show marked divergences from the doctrines of the Church of Sweden. He taught complete freedom from sin on the part of the true believer, maintained the full and complete sanctification of the Christian once and for all, his inability to do wrong and still remain a Christian, and held that the trespasses spoken of in the Lord's Prayer have reference only to the unregenerate. This was Erik Jansson's first serious departure in doctrine. He defended his view by means of an ingenious combination of scriptural passages, an art which he had completely mastered. He further aroused the opposition of the clergy by claiming to be sent as the special messenger of God to restore the true faith.*

By these contentions he aroused much adverse sentiment in Österunda. The rumor that the "readers" were very numerous in Helsingland gave him the idea that there he might find a more receptive field of operation than at home. For the alleged purpose of selling wheat flour, but really to gain a better knowledge of the religious movements in those parts, he made a trip to Helsingland in January, 1843,† accompanied by a hired man. Arriving at Söderala socken, at that time one of the hotbeds of revivalism, he first made inquiries whether there were any prominent religious teachers in that locality and was promptly referred to the peasant Jonas Olsson of Ina, who, together with his brother Olof Olsson of Kingsta, was a revivalist leader in the parish. Erik Jansson and his companion obtained lodging at the house of the former over night. They arrived on a Saturday evening. Erik Jansson at once declared himself one of the faithful, receiving, nevertheless, a somewhat cool reception at the hands of the devout Jonas Olsson. The following morning the married sister of the host came to purchase some flour, but Erik Jansson refused to do business on the Sabbath. This Jonas Olsson accepted as proof positive that the visitor was a true "reader," and adopted a more amiable manner toward the stranger. Such was the first meeting between these two men, who soon were to have so many weighty interests in common.

That Sunday morning Erik Jansson accompanied the host and his family to church, and in the evening they attended a meeting held in the neighborhood. Although requested by Jonas Olsson to rise and speak to the assemblage, Erik Jansson sat quiet in his seat. After their return home, the two men had a conversation regarding the meeting, which the stranger said was not at all to his liking, because he had

* His usual public declarations on this point were these: "The new doctrine I teach is of God; I am sent by God; since the time of the Apostles there has been no true preacher before me."

† This accords with all writers consulted, except Eric Johnson and C. F. Peterson, who say, "in the spring of 1842." If a trip was made prior to 1843, it was of no apparent consequence.

detected that the participants did not hold themselves to the Bible alone. At the meeting a portion had been read out of a postil and subsequently expounded. "What kind of Christianity is this you have?" Erik Jansson inquired sternly. The next morning he reprimanded Jonas Olsson for not conducting household worship. Hereby Erik Jansson made a profound impression on his host, and from that time the latter and his brother Olof became stanch supporters of Erik Jansson and pillars of his sect. From his own diary it appears that Erik Jansson felt great inner satisfaction at having got even with Jonas Olsson for the haughty manner in which he was received at his first meeting with the peasant preacher.

Erik Jansson now continued his journey northward. In the next parish, Norrala, he met Per Norin, a blacksmith, who was the virtual leader of the "readers" in that locality. His first conversation with Erik Jansson convinced him that the latter was an impostor. When they parted he exacted a promise from him never to return. This exasperated Erik Jansson to such an extent that he broke forth in execrations over the community of Norrala. Erik Jansson now journeyed on through Enanger, Njutanger, Hudiksvall and Helsingtuna, preaching everywhere and generally winning large numbers over to his views. This may be accounted for partly by the fact that he deviated only slightly from the tenets held by the "readers" in these parts, but what mostly impressed the multitudes was his ability to speak for four or five hours without signs of exhaustion, his abnormal memory, enabling him to quote almost any passage of the Bible at will, and his forcible advocacy of the Bible as the only source from which truth may be derived. For the time being, he shrewdly concealed his antipathy to the writings of Luther, Arndt, Nohrborg and others. After visiting Helsingtuna he returned home, Jonas Olsson accompanying him as far as Gefle. Here several meetings were held, at which Jonas Olsson invariably was loud in his praise of Erik Jansson. When in the middle of February he arrived home to Österunda, he was warmly received by Risberg, who, however, warned him against spiritual arrogance.

Erik Jansson's impressions of conditions in Helsingland were so favorable that he returned there in the latter part of February the same year. From Söderala he journeyed northward together with Jonas Olsson to Enanger, Njutanger and Hudiksvall, but did not meet with the same degree of success as on his former visit. His explanation of this was that the "readers" in Norrala were opposing him, but the real reason was found in his more open departures from the teachings of the state church and his bitter attacks upon the revivalism of the "readers" and the clergymen who upheld it. Disgusted with his meager success, he determined to seek other fields for his labors, and,

with a girl from Delsbo, Karin Ersson of Nyaker, acting as his guide, he went to Forssa. From there he went to Bjuräker, where at first he was well received by A. G. Sefström, the parson. But this friendship did not last, so Erik Jansson soon returned to Forssa, where he was carrying on a vigorous propaganda during the latter part of March.



Jonas Olson, Trustee and Preacher, in his Later Years

Accompanied by the girl Karin and a few other women followers he went from place to place, preaching many times a day. The audiences grew apace. His fiery invectives against the general indifference on the part of the spiritual guardians of the people mightily increased his popularity. Yet there were those who opposed him, the principal opponent being a woman, Karin Jonsson from Utnäs, who traveled from village to village antagonizing and disproving Erik Jansson's statements. As a result there arose a vast amount of controversy over the question of Erik Jansson's divine mission. His vindictiveness

gained the day, however, convincing the majority of the zealots that he was the special messenger of God.

Late in March Erik Jansson left Forssa. After a brief stay in Söderala, which brought him many converts, he reached Österunda at the end of April. During his absence the "readers" had gained so great accessions that the king's bailiff of the district was moved to have an announcement read in the Österunda church threatening the instigators of the movement with arrest and fines, did they not discontinue their meetings. Risberg, who had encouraged these gatherings, was warned to desist and urged to counteract the movement by means of special biblical exegeses in church and the introduction of private worship in the homes. These warnings were not given without cause, for tumults had actually occurred in connection with the numerous meetings. Erik Jansson was also met by the news that in his absence part of his personal property had been carried away by thieves and that his wife had been harshly treated by his parents. To add to his misfortunes, Risberg, in consequence of warnings received, had now turned against him.

Erik Jansson now staid at home for two months, attending to the spring work on his farm. About midsummer, he claimed to have received the same kind of a revelation that King Solomon had, according to I. Kings 3: 5. Like King Solomon, Erik Jansson then prayed for "an understanding heart to judge thy (God's) people, that I may distinguish good from bad," and claimed to have been given, like Solomon of old, an understanding heart in response to his prayer.

Shortly after midsummer, Erik Jansson made another journey to Helsingland. This time he traveled through Hanebo, Bollnäs and Jerfsö to Delsbo and Forssa, in which latter locality he went about holding meetings in the pasture fields. In these parishes he spoke with great assurance, claiming, as a result of the new revelation, "greater light than ever before." At a meeting in Delsbo he announced that he and Rev. Estenberg from Österunda were collaborating on a new translation of the Bible, for which he was now taking subscriptions.

He had unbounded confidence in himself. In order to command still greater respect among his followers, he attempted to imitate the Savior and his apostles by performing miracles. In Svedja, Delsbo parish, there was an old maid-servant who had been bedridden for years. When Erik Jansson learned of this he at once went to her bedside in order to cure her. Standing close to the sickbed he commanded the woman to take him by the hand and repeat the words, "I believe," when she would be instantly cured. She did as she was told, but without any effect whatever; nevertheless Erik Jansson turned to the bystanders praising God for what had been done, saying he had driven out the

devil and quoting the words, "Today hath salvation come unto this household."

In Kälkbo, Forssa parish, there was a young man aged twenty-nine, a cripple who had been bedridden from his childhood. After having made the house his headquarters for some time, Erik Jansson attempted to heal him in a miraculous manner. He predicted that on midsummer day (1844) the young man, suddenly cured of the malady, would "leap like a young deer." The invalid and his family firmly believed this, and clothes were ordered for him, but when the day arrived, there was no perceptible change in his condition. The failure cost Erik Jansson a number of adherents, and the house was closed to him from that day.*

During a drouth in the early summer of 1845 Erik Jansson gave it out that there would be no rain for three years and six months, as a result of his prayers to that effect. When in July the drouth was broken by rain, Erik Jansson attempted to save his reputation as a prophet by explaining that out of pity for the people he had averted the wrath of God with a new prayer.

On his return to Österunda, he was met by opposition in many quarters. Then he determined to sell his farm and remove to Helsingland to remain permanently among his followers there. He sacrificed Lötorp for 900 crowns for that purpose, but his father having died, he went to live on the paternal estate until April, 1844, before removing permanently to Helsingland. On this journey he went to Bollnäs and thence to Delsbo and Forssa. About this time Erik Jansson began his so-called "apostolic pilgrimages." At first he was followed only by women, but soon men also joined him at the meetings, sitting in a semi-circle around him as a kind of jury, testifying to the truth of everything he said. Urged by several of his followers, Erik Jansson now extended his operations to Alfta parish, in western Helsingland. Here he discovered a very grateful field for his labors, it having been prepared beforehand by traveling evangelists, who had held meetings of a Methodist character, so that Erik Jansson's doctrine of freedom from sin was not entirely new to the people. Besides, license and contempt for the clergy were prevalent in the localities where the so-called "readers" were numerous.

Under such circumstances it was but natural that the inhabitants of Alfta would be impressed by Erik Jansson's spirited antagonism of the established church. They were influenced all the more easily by his strong insistence on their reading the Bible to the exclusion of all other religious books. Step by step marked his departure from the established faith. Gradually he began to pose among them as being especially

* This and the following instance are cited by Landgren.

inspired by the Holy Spirit and set up his claim as the restorer of the pure Christian faith.

Having gained the greatest number of followers in northern Helsingland, he decided to make his home there. With his wife and two children, Erik and Mathilda, he moved to Forssa in April, 1844, shortly afterward purchasing from Jon Olsson of Stenbo the right of homestead at Lumnäs, a torp, or tenancy, subject to Stenbo. This marked a new epoch in the career of Erik Jansson. Prior to this, he had merely been preaching to his followers, who were scattered throughout the different parishes. Now these began to form a party or sect of their own, known as the Erik Janssonists, their leader simultaneously adopting the title of Prophet and assuming the authority of dictator and lawmaker for his faithful. One of his first mandates was to prohibit them from attending the regular church services, commanding them, instead, to be present at the meetings now regularly conducted by him.

The clergy and the civil authorities, considering the attitude now assumed by Erik Jansson all too defiant, called a meeting of the parishioners of Forssa. It was resolved to petition the provincial governmen to have him arrested as a vagrant and brought back to his home parish. Meanwhile, Erik Jansson went to the southern part of the province, operating mostly in Alfta, with brief excursions to Ofvanaker, Bollnäs and Söderala. He held meetings everywhere, posing as the "God-sent prophet," "the greatest light since the time of the Apostles," "the restorer of the true faith," etc. Almost everywhere he was received with high enthusiasm, and great masses, especially the "readers," believed him blindly. He had now entirely abandoned the caution observed earlier in his career, and when charged with preaching doctrines different from his earlier teachings, he replied in the words of St. Paul, that he had "desired to win them over by cunning." The theory of sinlessness was all along the central theme in his doctrine. To anyone who ventured to protest against the teaching or to dispute the divine mission of the teacher, he had the set retort: "Thou art of the devil," or, "Thy faith is of the devil," proving the statement by the assertion: "It is written in the Scriptures, the devils believe likewise, with fear." The way of salvation as pointed out by Erik Jansson grew the more free and easy according as the number of proselytes increased. Reduced to its simplest terms it was to confess one's belief in the prophet. Hardened sinners, who showed no sign of repentance, are said to have been shriven in this manner: at the meetings he embraced the new converts, with the query, "Wouldst thou be saved?" If the answer was, "Yes," he gave the immediate assurance, "Thou art saved," and wrote the name of the convert in a book.

The suppressive measures of the authorities were like an attempt to fight fire with oil. They served to increase the ardor of his adherents and caused them to gather all the closer around their leader, declaring that no evil should ever befall him. They loudly protested that he was sent by God and threatened blodshed, should the authorities violate his person. So far did they go in their devotion that they promised to follow him in death and even into hell, should that be his ultimate goal.

The alleged sinless state of the believers gave them great latitude in the matter of behavior. The prophet permitted himself the utmost freedom of conduct, and his relations with his women followers were not always above reproach. In the spring and summer of 1843 the aforesaid Karin Ersson traveled about with him, moved by religious infatuation. She had implicit confidence in this "man of God" until he began to pay her such attentions as seemed to her improper in a married man. When she upbraided him, he would own to being tempted and pray for deliverance from temptation, only to repeat the indecency with growing boldness. When at length he made her a shameless proposition outright and was promptly repulsed, he made the insidious reply: "Yes, but as a true believer in my Savior, Jesus Christ, I might do this without sinning." He adjured her not to say a word about the incident, as that would be committing a grievous sin, and the girl kept the matter secret for some time. When she finally made known his conduct, the prophet broke into a towering wrath and publicly denounced her as a liar and a vixen, praying that God might "add iniquity unto her iniquity." Some time in the winter of 1844, in the presence of one Isak Rudolphi and five women, one a follower of the prophet, Erik Jansson admitted the truth of the charge made by Karin Ersson, as attested by the six witnesses in a signed document dated at Delsbo, May 6, 1844.* Subsequently the prophet alternately denied the confession, charged that the girl had been the guilty party, that he had merely wished to put her to a test, or that his own evil desire had been sent as a punishment from God.

In March, 1844, Erik Jansson visited Alfta at the invitation of certain women, including an unmarried woman of Broddlägret, Bollnäs, who also had been his traveling companion. During his sojourn here the prophet, his former companion and another woman from Bollnäs shared the same room at night. The villagers led a simple life and were no sticklers on decorum, but this could not pass without comment. One woman, who with her husband was then devoted to the prophet,

* Landgren: Erik-Jansismen, p. 29.

afterwards said of Erik Jansson and the Bollnäs girl: "Their wanton and unchaste behavior made me blush on behalf of our sex."

At Hamre, Forssa parish, Erik Jansson one morning just before opening a meeting had a frolic with two or three girls, who had accompanied him from Alfta. His wife, who was present, took offense and a disagreement ensued, witnessed by a number of the worshipers. Before these the prophet justified himself in this wise. "Because ye lack faith, all this befalls me; faith is not in you, therefore Satan hath been empowered to winnow her like wheat."

Erik Jansson's moral character once stained, his enemies sought to paint the man entirely black. Other rumors were set afloat impeaching his private and public conduct, but they are branded as false by the same authority upon which the above incidents have been quoted. The latter were enough to bring the prophet into ill repute with the general public, but the faith of his adherents remained unshaken. He declared himself perfect and holy, like God himself, and they took him at his word. Even granting the truth of the damaging evidence, some still held him blameless, maintaining that the heart had no part in the doings of the flesh.

Many iniquities were committed against the prophet and his adherents in the name of the law. One of the most flagrant outrages was perpetrated in August, 1844, at Klockaregarden, Österunda, by the parish vicar, N. A. Arenander, one of Erik Jansson's bitterest enemies. Shortly after the return of the latter from his fourth apostolic pilgrimage to Helsingland, his adherents in Österunda met one night in Klockaregarden, the house of Olof Stenberg. Sophia Sjön, an ardent believer in the prophet, was staying there. At midnight Arenander arrived, with a number of men, and demanded entry. This being refused, the door was forced. On the pretense of searching for Erik Jansson the minister, who is said to have been drunk at the time, entered the bedchamber, where Sofia Sjön and Anna Maria Strale slept. He pulled the former out of bed, tore handfuls of hair from her head, pushed her out to the men in her night garment, and after finishing his vain search through the house, brought the woman half dressed as a prisoner to the sheriff's house in Thorstuna, a neighboring village. To justify his action, the parson charged the woman with vagrancy, but the officer promptly ordered her release. The injured woman brought suit against the vicar for disturbing the peace, assault and battery, false arrest, and sundry minor offenses, for all of which crimes and misdemeanors she sought damages and urged one year's imprisonment and fines. At the preliminary hearing the charges were fully substantiated by five witnesses. The defendant impeached the witnesses on the ground that they belonged to the "readers" and were not church members in good standing, and accordingly the court

declared two of the witnesses incompetent. The case was continued, and during preparation for the exodus to America it seems to have been dropped. This same Arenander was a tireless prosecutor of the "readers" and Erik Janssonists, but according to an official report of the magistracy the cases in that district were all dismissed for want of equity.

One explanation of the great influence Erik Jansson wielded over his followers lay in the hypnotism of his eye, which few were able to withstand. Thereby he controlled his people with a power and personal influence that was irresistible. In personal appearance, Erik Jansson was of medium stature, with brown hair, blue eyes, pale, thin face, with high cheek-bones, and thin lips, uncommonly long and broad teeth, especially in the upper jaw; the last joint of the right index finger was lacking, having been severed with an ax by his elder brother, Johan, in their boyhood. His voice was harsh and disagreeable in tone, and his speech rather indistinct, as though he had something in his mouth while speaking. In meeting he habitually overexerted himself, when his voice was transformed to a piercing shriek. A constant grin, which may have been the result of involuntary muscular contraction, gave him a repulsive look. Furthermore, he had frequent recourse to tears, the abundant flow of which did not tend to make his appearance more attractive. A portrait of Erik Jansson cannot be given, he having never sat for his picture, either in photograph or on canvas.

Book Pyres and Consequent Arrest of Erik Jansson

As we have seen, Erik Jansson ever since his so-called "second conversion" had a bitter aversion to the writings of Luther and Arndt. By and by, he conceived a plan to rid himself, once and for all, of these hated authorities which were continually quoted in rebuttal of his views by both prospective proselytes and outright antagonists. He would have liked to make short shrift with the Lutheran catechism and psalmbook, but these were still held in so high esteem among his own followers that he dared not as yet do violence to them directly, but confined himself to scathing denunciations in his sermons, applying to them such terms as, "an empty barrel with both ends closed" and the "wails of Satan." The beasts of the Book of Revelation, he claimed, were the prototypes of these "false and devilish teachers, Luther, the demigod, and Arndt, the murderer of souls." The following excerpt is quoted to give some idea of the tone of the sermons preached by Erik Jansson at this time:

"The Word of God has lain fallow from generation to generation. There is no salvation in the sermons usually preached in times past. If ye believe my words, ye shall be saved; if ye mistrust me, ye also mis-

trust God. Once a man set himself up against my teachings, but what happened? Within three days he was taken hence and thrust into eternity. Ye would read the idolatrous books of the accursed Luther and the devilish Arndt. But hear ye! Mark well my words! It was not the Gospel of the Lord, but of the devil; it was with the waters of hell that he deluged the whole world. Hear ye! Since ye will not believe the pure gospel that I preach unto you, the Lord shall pour out his cups of burning wrath over you, and ye shall be thrust into nethermost hell!"

These rantings soon took effect. All that was necessary to set his followers to destroying their Lutheran books was for the prophet to point to the words of the 19th verse of the 19th chapter of Acts: "And not a few of them that practiced magical arts brought their books together and burned them in the sight of all." A like scene was enacted on the 11th of June, 1844, in the village of Tranberg, in Alfta parish. People in great numbers from Alfta, Söderala, Ofvanaker and Bollnäs for several days had been engaged in lugging sacks filled with books down to the banks of the lake where they were piled into a great pyre near Fiskragården. Erik Jansson was present in person, encouraging the people in this wise: "Satan celebrated a jubilee, when the works of Luther were first published; when we now burn them, it will be his turn to grieve"; or, "Those who take part shall feel a heavenly joy when they see the smoke rise." A person who warned them of the consequence of their act was told by Olof Olsson of Kingsta that so fixed were they in their determination that blood would flow, ere a single book would be exempt from the pyre. Some would save the covers of their books, but Erik Jansson declared in a loud voice, "Whosoever saves the coverings of his idols shall be damned!"

The pyre was lighted, and books to the value of about 975 crowns, including the postils of Luther, Nohrborg, Linderoth, Pettersson and others, "True Christianity," by Arndt, and great masses of temperance tracts, were consumed by the flames.

"Behold, how Satan opens his jaws!" the fanatics exclaimed when the books would open from the heat and draft. To the vast assemblage Erik Jansson read the 18th chapter of Revelations, whereupon two hired men chanted: "Give thanks and praise unto the Lord," to which the crowd sang the response: "Glory be unto the Lord."

The heavenly joy predicted by the prophet did not materialize, however; instead, evil forebodings seemed to haunt the minds of the spectators as the last flicker of the pyre died out.

The cup of fanaticism was now brimming over and the authorities could no longer watch Erik Jansson's operations with indifference. Two days after the burning of the books, he was arrested after a bloody encounter between the deputies and the followers of the prophet. Erik

Jansson himself was near being killed in the fray. He was imprisoned first at Gefle, then at Vesterås, until July 12th, when he was released after a hearing before the provincial governor in the latter city. Together with some of his friends, Erik Jansson then went to Stockholm and obtained an audience before the king. From the capital he wrote letters to his disciples in Helsingland, admonishing some of their number to go out and proclaim his doctrines, which they did. After a second hearing before the governor at Vesterås Sept. 21st, when Erik Jansson put up a clever defense, he was entirely cleared of the charges and at once returned to Helsingland.

If he had heretofore been a prophet in the eyes of his followers, his arrest and the mistreatment to which they thought him subjected, crowned him with the halo of martyrdom. He went so far as to liken his sufferings to those of the Savior himself. Surrounded by eleven men, corresponding to the apostles of Christ, and a great number of women, he went from village to village, holding meetings at which "the Passion of Erik Jansson" was recited, including all his acts and sufferings from the time of his arrest. He claimed to be in high favor with the king after his visit to the royal palace; and all things contributed towards making his fame greater than ever before. In the height of his arrogance, he now began to grant forgiveness of sin to all who at the meetings announced themselves as believers in him.

On Oct. 28th of that year, at Lynäs, Söderala parish, he arranged a second pyre of theological books, this time including the catechism and the Lutheran hymnal, with the promise that a new catechism and hymnal, written by himself, would soon be published. Following the ceremony of burning, a thanksgiving service was held in a neighboring farmhouse.

Not quite a month afterwards, Erik Jansson had intended to arrange still another auto-da-fé, especially for the Forssa and Delsbo parishes, but he was again arrested, this time by order of a royal letter, instructing the Upsala chapter to administer a warning. The provincial authorities at Gefle, where he was again brought, placed him under medical surveillance, on the supposition that he was demented. In the meantime, Erik Jansson was writing hymns, founded largely on the books of Ezra and Nehemiah; he also sent his wife instructions to have his early writings copied and prepared for publication. Having been found of sound mind, he was sent to Upsala, where on December 18th he was officially warned by the chapter against propagating false doctrines, and then set free.

Three days later he was back in Söderala, conducting meetings as before. A meeting was held Sunday, December 22nd, during the time

of high mass, but the audience was dispersed by the king's bailiff, who appeared on the scene with a number of deputies. A great tumult arose in which several persons, among whom the wife of Erik Jansson, received bodily injuries. He was now taken back to the Gefle prison and kept there till April 18th the following year.

Erik Jansson's Flight to Dalarne and Norway

While Erik Jansson was in prison, his disciples carried on his work. Their meetings were now generally held simultaneously with the regular services in the churches. In expectation of the new catechism and hymnal promised by Erik Jansson, his followers refused to send their children to the common schools. Wherever Erik Janssonism gained a foothold it created more or less disturbance in the parishes. Disagreements were provoked between husband and wife, parents and children, masters and servants, and naturally those who suffered persecution had nothing but contempt for the civil and ecclesiastical authorities.

At Forssa occurred a third burning of books in the early morning of Dec. 7, 1844, when the perpetrators had the audacity to include a copy of "Sveriges Rikes Lag," the code of the realm. This, however, was saved in the last moment, as were a number of the other books doomed to destruction. A trial followed, resulting in the conviction and fining of the fifteen participants. To illustrate the feeling towards the clergy: an Erik Janssonist peasant of Delsbo is said to have offered to have all his timber cut down and made into headsman's blocks and gallows for the men of the cloth. Equally fanatical were they in their adoration of the new religious leader. For instance, a subscription was started in Ofvanaker for the purpose of purchasing his liberty, his deluded friends believing that the authorities could be bribed to release him from prison. In Alfta his followers went from village to village, holding meetings at which the established church and the clergy were roundly abused, the tenor of the denunciations being that all churches ought to be burned and all clergymen hanged, or, leastwise, their tongues cut out. They appropriated two per cent. of their property "for the restoration of the crumbling church of Christ." In other Helsingland parishes where the movement had gained a foothold similar operations were carried on, extending also into Österunda and Thorstuna parishes in Upland, everywhere resulting in more or less violent clashes with the civil authorities.

Immediately after his arrest, Erik Jansson lodged a plea with the provincial governor's office demanding his release, which was denied. He appealed to the king's court, which on March 17th found the charges insufficient to warrant his detention in prison, whereupon the prison authorities returned him to Forssa on April 23rd

Having been enjoined from leaving Forssa parish, "the Savior at Stenbo," as Erik Jansson was nicknamed by the local population, continued his work there more aggressively than before, and the people flocked in ever increasing numbers to listen to this "voice in the wilderness." He also proceeded to ordain and send out apostles, to whom he solemnly delivered the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven.

On midsummer day he conducted a largely attended meeting at Stenbo. J. M. Åström, the king's bailiff, determined to arrest Erik Jansson and break up the meeting, ordered out a number of parishioners to assist him. They were told to provide themselves with clubs. Thus armed, they moved on to Stenbo, where they found the prophet preaching from the doorstep to the crowd outside. In the act of making the arrest, the officer was pulled down from the doorstep by a woman, and Erik Jansson escaped through the crowd and fled, but those of his believers who remained were terribly beaten and otherwise mistreated, while defending themselves as best they could. The next day the bailiff again appeared, now accompanied by the parson and a large crowd of people, and again ordered the assemblage at Stenbo to disperse. As soon as the king's officer had left, a desperate fight ensued between the Erik Janssonists and their antagonists, in which knives were flourished, windows and doors broken, and much household goods destroyed. Erik Jansson's wife, who had taken refuge in the cow-barn, was discovered by some young fellows just in the act of disappearing through a dung-trap in the floor and was then and there treated to a thorough bastinado.

Erik Jansson sought refuge in the home of Jonas Olsson in Ina, Söderala, then escaped to Österunda and Thorstuna, and lay in hiding for five weeks under the floor of a cow-barn in Thorstuna and then for several weeks more in an attic in the same parish.

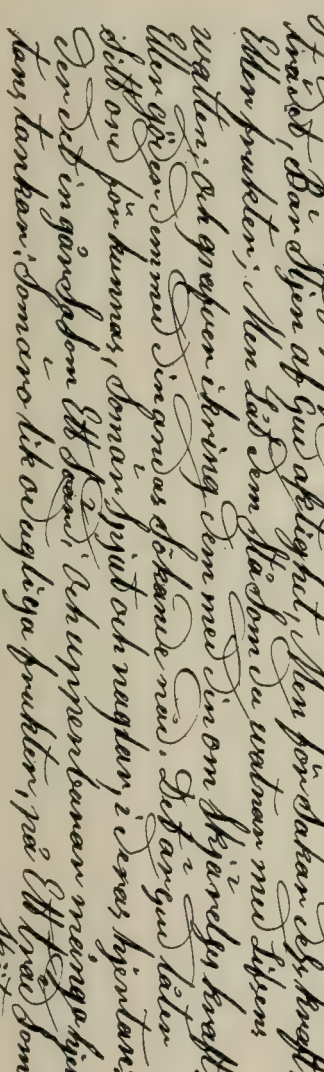
These disturbances could not pass unnoticed. A royal decree of Feb. 17, 1845, had ordered a legal investigation and definite charges preferred. July 21st, the day set for the trial, came, but the accused was nowhere to be found. Summons for his capture were again issued, and in September he voluntarily made known his whereabouts. Service was at once had, citing him to appear at the county court at Forssa, Oct. 11th. Erik Jansson then pleaded that, having been driven into hiding by threats against his life, he had received no summons and consequently had failed to appear in court on the day aforesaid. This trial was not concerned with the recent disturbances, but dealt with certain heterodox statements made by Erik Jansson at a meeting in Hamre, Forssa parish, on Nov. 3rd, the year before. On this as on prior occasions Erik Jansson's friends and sympathizers were barred from testifying, being declared incompetent and untrustworthy on

account of their faith, and the witnesses for the prosecution only were heard. From this resolution of the jury the judge dissented. After an order for Erik Jansson's detention in prison pending a verdict had been denied by the court, the case was continued until Oct. 30th and change of venue then taken to the county court at Delsbo, which convened in extra session Nov. 18th. The disposition of the case was that Erik Jansson be sent to the Gefle prison pending a new trial. The jury rendered this verdict, overriding the judge, who was for acquittal and is said to have imposed a fine on each of the jurors for contempt.

His followers had begun to suspect that there was a secret plan to put him out of the way during imprisonment; for that reason they decided to deliver him from jail at all hazards. Therefore, when the transport reached the road to Lynäs, in Söderala, four men rushed from ambush, halted the conveyance, cut the reins and, overpowering the guard, set the prisoner free. This happened Nov. 21st. A rumor was at once circulated that Erik Jansson had been murdered, and for the evident purpose of lending credibility to the story, his wife appeared in widow's weeds at Gefle, making inquiries for her dead husband. In addition, a woman at Lynäs had poured the blood of a kid in the road, in further support of the rumor. It soon became evident, however, that this was a pure fabrication to aid in keeping the prophet in concealment.

After the rescue, Erik Jansson was in hiding at various points in western Helsingland, or went about in the guise of a woman. This incognito gave his apostles occasion to liken him to Christ after the resurrection. His first hiding place was in the house of Peter Källman at the Voxna Mills. After having been discovered holding a secret meeting there one night, when he narrowly escaped being taken, he was transferred to Ofvanaker, where he was hid for seven weeks under a barn-floor. Threatened with discovery, he was soon after brought to the home of one of his followers, Sven Olsson, in Alfta. While under the influence of liquor, this man divulged the whereabouts of the prophet, who, being warned, fled to Dalarne. There he found refuge among his believers, principally in the home of a well to do peasant, Linjo Gabriel Larsson in Östra Fors, Malung parish. In the meantime, his teachings spread quite extensively in Dalarne, particularly in Malung and Mora parishes, but also to Lima parish and the city of Falun. In Herjedalen Erik Jansson also succeeded in gaining a few proselytes, among whom Olof Jonsson and Sven Jonsson, two peasants in the village of Länga, Hede parish. These arranged book pyres patterned after those in Helsingland. At one of these occasions a copy of the Bible was included in the mass of books consigned to the flames,

but it was snatched from the fire in the last minute by a female relative of the man who arranged the auto-da-fé. Long after the prophet had deserted his own country, his disciples continued to spread his



Fac-Simile of Page from Erik Jansson's Church Prayers

doctrines and gain proselytes in the provinces of Helsingland, Gestrikland and Upland.

This same winter and spring the promised catechism and hymnal were published, entitled, "Commentaries to the Holy Scriptures, or Catechism, Arranged in Questions and Answers, by Erik Jansson,"

and, "Sundry Songs and Prayers, Composed by Erik Jansson." These books were printed at a shop established in violation of the law by a pay-sergeant, named C. G. Blombergsson, in the village of Ina, Söderala parish, just outside of Söderhamn. The language used in this catechism, like that of his other writings, is verbose and incongruous. The ever-recurring theme is the divine mission of Erik Jansson and the spiritual perfection of his faithful followers, claims which he seeks to establish by references to Old Testament narratives and prophecies. In point of diction and rhythm, his hymns are faulty in the extreme.* Besides these works, several other writings of Erik Jansson were issued in print, such as his "Farewell Address," "A Glorious Description of the Growth of Man," "A Few Words to God's People," "Timely Words," and "Farewell Speech to all the Inhabitants of Sweden, who have despised me, whom Jesus hath sent; or rejected the name of Erik Jansson."

From Erik Jansson's catechism, embodying his principal teachings, a few excerpts may properly be made by way of defining this religious movement in the words of the founder himself. We translate literally from a reprint published at Galva, Ill., in 1903.

In the foreword we read this authoritative declaration: "Thou, who taketh this precious treasure in thy hand in order to accept every word of it as if spoken by God, or as though God himself stood before thee in visible form and spake to thee all that is herein written and everything is written as the Word of God—I pray thee to consider well the import of certain expressions."

On page 22 we find his views on education thus expressed: "It is not unbeknown to us that all the schools of the times are founded by the devil, yet they are of some use in teaching that which pertains to a knowledge, sanctioned by God, of those figures (things) from which the prophets drew their parables, etc."

On page 24 the author speaks of himself in this wise:

"Question. But how canst thou know that God now shall send a certain person, when we have God's word in abundance amongst us, without (need of) any more teachings, by untutored laymen?

"Answer. As regards this, that the canonical books of the Bible are sufficient to instruct us about the way of salvation, it has already been said that all other writings and books are needless and devilish and cannot be considered (in ascertaining) whether the Word of God, without the faulty interpretations of others, is and shall ever be the only foundation, on which the one sent by God shall build. But in regard to this, that Jesus will send some one, who shall restore that

* "So tedious, repugnant and impious a collection of songs no other religious body has ever had foisted upon it. Among the rudest products of versification in any literature one will search in vain for anything to match it." (WIESELGREN.)

which long hath lain fallow, we know by all the signs of the times that he hath already been sent, for everyone who believeth, may see that the same miracles that Jesus wrought are also being performed by him whom God has sent. Further, we find that the signs of Jonah, the Prophet, have come to pass in all lands and are being fulfilled in all the nations under the sun. Therefore I may be sure that Jesus has sent the one who gives his life for that which is right, or alone for the salvation of his brethren."

The first commandment is commented thus on page 35:

"Q. Mayst thou have other gods besides God, when thou disbelievest him whom God hath sent as the light of the world?

"A. Not to believe in him whom God has sent is the worst idolatry of which the Bible speaks; for whosoever toucheth him toucheth the apple of God's eye."

The eighth (ninth) commandment is thus interpreted (p. 75):

"Q. Since thy brethren in the faith alone are thy neighbors, mayst thou bear false witness against the unbelievers?

"A. Whenever it is required to bear such witness as to promote the eternal welfare of my neighbor, I cannot but bear witness free from falsehood. But should I, like Judas, be asked where he, whom I am sure God has sent, is (hidden), then I cannot testify truthfully, being convinced that I would thereby bear false witness against my neighbor." The next two pages are devoted to proving that lying is not only permissible but praiseworthy; quoting Scripture to show that the Lord's servants often have lied to the glory of God. We are told (p. 77) that "when the faithful speak falsely and lie before men for the sake of truth and right, they do so in order to destroy falsehood and eradicate the tares."

On page 103 Erik Jansson gets down to the bedrock of his doctrine in these words:

"Q. You believe, then, that the coming of Christ has not been fulfilled until Erik Jansson came with the true light, just as God in the beginning created light in the midst of darkness?

"A. It is to be remarked that all prophecies have reference, first, to Christ, the first-born, secondly, to his believers or those of whom Jesus says that they shall perform the same miracles that He wrought, etc. 2. It follows, that we must consider the words of Jesus Christ himself on this point, namely, that according to the Prophets the last house shall surpass the first, i. e., as the second glory (of the) Temple of Jerusalem surpassed the glory built by the son of David and placed in said temple—a sorry tangle of words for a prophet—so also it now shall come to pass that the glory restored by Erik Jansson in Christ's stead shall surpass that of Jesus and his Apostles in all lands; for now Jesus Christ hath been made manifest in the flesh to all those who

believe in the name of the Son of God, and hence it is plain that the coming of Christ is fully realized through Erik Jansson's obedience to God." — — There is much more of this, with frequent repetition of the name Erik Jansson, which we forbear to quote.

The above excerpts are given as characteristic of Erik Jansson's mode of thought and literary style as well as of his teachings, but they do not by far cover all the points on which he was charged with heresy by the state church.

Emigration of the Erik Janssonists to America

In his arrogance Erik Jansson had prophesied that within two years the world would be converted and all his antagonists annihilated. The prediction seemed all the more unlikely to come true now that the prophet himself was in dire peril. He had fled to escape punishment and, when reached by the arm of the law, would face conviction and banishment for heresy and repeated attempts at proselyting in violation of the law. When it became manifest that the Erik Janssonists could no longer operate without constant clashes with the authorities and the populace, and when the novelty of religious martyrdom had worn off, they began to look about for a place of refuge, and their eyes and hopes were directed to the United States. Gustaf Flack, mentioned in the foregoing chapter, had highly commended America in letters to his relatives in Alfta parish, especially dwelling on the religious liberty enjoyed in the new world. Hence the Erik Janssonists resolved to transplant the whole movement to this country, or, in their own phrase, "to turn to the heathen, inasmuch as the inhabitants of their own country refused to accept the truth and believe in it."

In order to make needed preparations for their coming, Olof Olsson of Kingsta turned his property into ready money at public auction and left for America in the summer of 1845, accompanied by his wife, their two children and a couple of other persons. He and all the other leaders, including Erik Jansson himself, who from his hidingplaces sent numerous letters to his faithful, were untiring in their efforts to paint in the most glowing colors the future that the promised land had in store for the chosen people. One of the promises held out to them was that there they would have their fill of "figs, white bread and pork, hogs being so plentiful that one only had to shoot, butcher and eat them." They need have no fear for the language, it was claimed, for upon their arrival it would be given unto them to speak with tongues. Furthermore, the heathen were to build for them walls and cities. All the glories of the millennium were to be realized; all were to be as one large family; snakes and dragons would be powerless to injure any of God's chosen seed; the lions were to graze together with the cattle

of the fields,—these were some of the alluring pictures held up to the prospective emigrants.

Upon his arrival in New York, Olof Olsson encountered Rev. O. G. Hedström, the founder of Swedish Methodism in America, who received him with the utmost cordiality. Rev. Hedström endeavored to win his guest over to Methodism, and had no difficulty in so doing, owing partly to the similarity between that creed and the teachings of Erik Jansson, partly to Olof Olsson's previous acquaintance with Methodist doctrines, acquired through the visit in Helsingland of Rev. George Scott, a Methodist preacher stationed at Stockholm. To Rev. Hedström Olof Olsson confided the purpose of his trip, stating that he had come to find a suitable place of settlement for the oppressed Erik Janssonists; and the former was not slow to recommend Victoria, Ill., the home of his younger brother Jonas Hedström. After a short stay in New York, Olof Olsson came on to Illinois in the fall, provided with a letter of recommendation from Rev. Hedström to his brother, looked him up and enjoyed the same cordial reception accorded him by the elder brother. From Victoria Olof Olsson early in the spring of 1846, after having made a prospecting tour of Illinois, Wisconsin and Minnesota, wrote back to Sweden, recommending settlement in Illinois.

Among the Erik Janssonists at home this aroused great eagerness for an early start for the new land of Canaan, the sentiment being in every way encouraged by the prophet and his apostles. At this juncture Erik Janssonism might have had a backset but for the proposed exodus which, as an adjunct to their religious fanaticism, aroused the spirit of adventure and held out the most alluring prospects of the blessed land beyond the Atlantic. But it was not easy to get from Sweden to America in those days. In the first place, the Erik Janssonists had some difficulty in obtaining the necessary passports. In the second place, vessels suited to the purpose of the emigrants were scarce. The few Swedish vessels engaged in American trade carried cargoes of iron and lacked accommodations for passengers. Some of these were remodeled for the convenience of the emigrants, but proved very inconvenient at best. Besides, several of the ships were old and hardly seaworthy.

Erik Jansson had made up his own plan of emigration and decided to adopt absolute communism.* Accordingly, the members of the sect sold their real and personal property and formed a general treasury out of which the expenses of the passage were to be defrayed for all

* On this point authorities differ. "In this plan did not enter *** those socialistic or communistic principles of society, which were enforced after the colony was well established. — — Upon leaving Sweden necessity prompted the emigrants to put their money into a common fund and to have everything in common. This community of property they chose to maintain after their arrival but there was no intention of founding the colony on a socialistic basis. Erik

alike. As preparations were going forward, many difficulties arose. Thus many were in debt, and their affairs had to be cleared up; others were soldiers and had to pay large sums for their release from military service; still others had difficulty in finding buyers and were forced to sell their property at great sacrifice. Nevertheless, the common fund grew quite large. Linjo Gabriel Larsson of Östra Fors, Malung parish, one of Erik Jansson's chief followers in Dalarne, made the very substantial contribution of 24,000 crowns; others added twelve, nine, five or one thousand crowns to the general fund. Even the clothing not needed for daily use was sold, for all were to be dressed alike. The prophet appointed four persons as so-called "princes," who were to keep and administer the general fund, viz., Jonas Olsson and Olof Jansson (afterwards known as Johnson) from Söderala, Olof Jonsson (in America he changed his name to Stenberg or Stoneberg) from Forssa, and Anders Berglund from Alfta.* Anyone who wavered in his allegiance to the prophet was expelled without getting back his contribution to the general fund or any share of it.

While his faithful followers were preparing for the general exodus, Erik Jansson left the country.† Equipped with the passport of another family, he set out with his wife and two children and several other persons. He himself, being a fugitive, traveled secretly at night, remaining hid by day at the homes of his believers. When he had left the parts where these lived, he traveled on skis, generally ahead of his party, and slept in vacant woodchopper's huts or wherever he could find shelter. After crossing the fjelds into Norway he traveled openly with the party to Christiania.

Other members of the party were, Olof Norlund, who, to make the passport tally in Sweden, traveled as Mrs. Jansson's husband, and three

Jansson spoke of it as a temporary arrangement and it was his purpose, as also that of the other leading men, to make a change as soon as conditions permitted." (JOHNSON and PETERSON.)

"It is safe to say, that into his colonization plan did not enter any of those communistic or socialistic principles, which afterwards found a practical application in the colony. These were the fruits of necessity." (SWAINSON.)

"That communism in the Bishop Hill colony originated in this way is quite likely; but even if no distinctly communistic plan was framed prior to emigration, yet I recollect that the doctrine of Christian communism was at the time strongly urged by the Janssonists, and therein lay the seed of the communism that subsequently sprung up at Bishop Hill." (NORELIUS.)

Hiram Bigelow's assumption that Erik Jansson had come under the influence of the French socialists and adopted their communistic views is not supported by any known facts.

So much is certain, that the plan was patterned after that of the earlier Christians, and there is nothing to show that it was to apply only during emigration.

* The number is sometimes given as seven, but the names of the other three are nowhere recorded.

† The statement that he left Sweden in January, 1846, does not tally with other data, which seem to place the event well toward the spring. Capt. Johnson, who avers that his father "left for America before Christmas, 1845," counts from his start from Helsingland.

women. When Norlund was no longer needed, he returned, as did also Linjo Lars Gabrielson, who saw Erik Jansson safely out of the country and is said to have paid the passage to America for the entire party. From Christiania the party crossed over to Copenhagen and proceeded via Kiel, Hamburg, Hull and Liverpool to New York.

The rest of the Erik Janssonists took passage on vessels in the ports of Stockholm, Söderhamn, Göteborg, Christiania, but principally Gefle. In the latter city they gathered in large numbers and held public meetings. They likened themselves to the children of Israel departing from Egypt. As Moses had destroyed the Egyptians in the Red Sea, so the prophet and messenger Erik Jansson would by the power of God lay waste all Sweden, that accursed hell-hole, with fire and sword. In their eagerness to join in the exodus, wives deserted their husbands and infants, children their parents, and servants their employers. The journey was one of severe hardships to most of the emigrants. The lords of the exchequer, appointed by Erik Jansson, were to supply provisions and other necessaries, but their inexperience entailed much illness and suffering. To this was added seasickness. True, Erik Jansson had assured them of immunity from that nauseous affliction if they were steadfast in the faith, but subsequent events showed that either they were misled on that point or else there was a very general wavering among the faithful.

Many of the emigrants were exposed to great peril. One ship, which set sail from Söderhamn in October, 1845, and was the first to carry any considerable number of Erik Janssonists, was wrecked off Öregrund, but all the passengers—there were sixteen or seventeen in the Janssonist party—were saved and returned to their homes. They reembarked on a ship which left Gefle in March the following year. Another of the emigrant vessels, commanded by one Captain Rönning, went down with fifty emigrants on board, not one of whom was saved. A third ship foundered off New Foundland, the passengers saving their lives but losing all their property. When the ship "Vilhelmina" reached New York, in September, 1846, twenty-two children had died on the voyage. In this and subsequent years altogether one hundred and seventy Erik Janssonists perished on the way.

Founding of the Bishop Hill Colony, the First Swedish Settlement in Illinois

Erik Jansson and his family reached New York in June, 1846. His wife having just given birth to a son, they were delayed in that city several weeks. In the interval, Erik Jansson preached to the Methodists on board their Bethel ship. As soon as his wife was restored to health, they started for Illinois, accompanied by an American family

named Pollock of New York and two Swedish women. In the early part of July they reached Victoria, where Erik Jansson met Olof Olsson, who had gone to America the year before. The latter lived on a forty acre farm in section 22, Copley township, and made a home for himself and family in a log cabin. In this same cabin the first Swedish Methodist congregation in America was afterwards organized on December 15, 1846. The shelter was far from satisfactory, but in the absence of better accommodations it had to do. Rain poured through the leaky roof, and snakes crawled in through the holes in the walls, subjecting the inhabitants to discomfort and danger.

The first meeting in America between Erik Jansson and Olof Olsson was not a pleasant affair. As before stated, the latter had been converted to Methodism by Rev. O. G. Hedström of New York, and when Erik Jansson learned of this, there was a hot encounter between the two men.

Eric Jansson and family shared the log cabin occupied by Olof Olsson. They had no more than become fairly settled when this same log cabin was transformed into a theological forum, says Capt. Eric Johnson, in relating this reminiscence of his early boyhood. Theological discussions were served up for breakfast, dinner and supper. Between meals the combatants would sit in the shade of a tree, continuing the debate, and worst of all for the non-combatants, the wordy battle raged long after all had gone to bed. The only truce was during morning and evening prayers. This religious combat had been going on for days, if not weeks, when one night after retiring the war grew fiercer than ever. After a rapid exchange of redhot religious broadsides, Olsson finally lost his temper and threatened to get out of bed and throw Erik Jansson and his family out of the house. This proved the turning point in the affray, for next morning the two men were friends and looked at religion from the same point of view—Olof Olsson had become a Janssonist again.

A few days after the arrival of Erik Jansson came the first party of his followers. They were people from Dalecarlia province who, under the leadership of Linjo Gabriel Larsson, had left Malung April 9th and 10th for America, via Christiania. From New York they had taken the route which was used by the great mass of Swedish and other immigrants for almost a decade before the first railroad was built to Chicago, viz., up the Hudson to Albany by steamer, thence by canal to Buffalo, and again by steamer over the Great Lakes from that point to Chicago. From the latter point, most of the adults traveled on foot to Victoria, while children and invalids rode on pack horses and in wagons purchased for transportation purposes. Later parties took the canal route to Henry or Peru, whence they walked or rode. The very last comers traveled by railroad the entire distance from New York to

Galva. This was in 1854 after the completion of the C. B. & Q. road to the latter point.

For the sum of $250 out of the common treasury Olof Olsson purchased a sixty acre farm at Red Oak Grove, in sections 9 and 17, with a loghouse and a few acres of ground under cultivation. On August 21st, after the first party of immigrants had arrived, 156 acres of section 8, in the same township, was purchased for $1,100. The party at once moved upon the land, managing as best they could. There was a log cabin, a piece of cultivated ground, and some timber. They now began to plan a small town or colony for those that were to follow, and after looking over the neighborhood they decided to locate at Hoop Pole Grove, comprising the southwest corner of section 14, Weller township. Here Erik Jansson bought 160 acres directly from the government on Sept. 26th, for $200. The same day a tract of 320 acres in sections 23 and 24 was purchased for $400. It was a fine locality, with a small bluff, a spring of water, clumps of oak-trees and a small stream, known as South Edward's Creek. The place was named Bishop Hill, after Biskopskulla, the birthplace of Erik Jansson. Olof Olsson had accompanied the others to Red Oak Grove, and before the end of the year he and his wife, together with two of their children, were claimed by death.

In readiness for a numerous party that was expected soon, two log houses were hurriedly put up, also four large tents and one so-called church tent, built of logs in the form of a cross and covered with canvas. The entrance and the pulpit were at the north end, while the south end was occupied by a fireplace and a gallery. This tabernacle had a capacity of 800 to 1,000 persons. A laudable trait of the colonists was this, that immediately upon their arrival they built a house in which to give praise and thanks to God, whom they would serve and for whose sake they believed themselves persecuted and martyred.

On Oct 28th Jonas Olsson arrived with a large party, including Erik Jansson's two brothers, Johan, or Jan, and Peter. His mother, who was in the party, died during the voyage. Many members of this as well as subsequent parties deserted in New York, the hardships endured on the voyage creating in their minds a doubt as to the divine mission of the alleged prophet. There is good ground for the belief, however, that many of the deserters probably had never professed an abiding faith in him, having merely taken advantage of the movement to get rid of their debts and obtain free passage to America. Many stopped in Chicago, among whom Jan Jansson, one of Erik Jansson's own brothers.

At the approach of cold weather, another party arrived, raising the total number of colonists to three hundred. The existing buildings now proved entirely inadequate, and many additional loghouses were hastily

built, also a large sodhouse which served as kitchen and dining hall, or, according to the recollection of some, three sod kitchens were built, one by one, as needed, and later replaced by one large adobe kitchen in three sections. But even at that, the demand for shelter was not fully met. In addition no less than twelve so-called dugouts were constructed, by the process of digging holes, or cellars, in the side of the hill, the partial earthen walls being completed by a superstructure of logs. The hut was covered with a layer of thin boards on which was placed a thatch of sod. The door was at the front end, flanked by a couple of small windows, and the fireplace at the back wall. These unsanitary dwellings were 25 to 30 feet long and 18 feet wide and housed from twenty-five to thirty persons each. These slept in berths built in two tiers along the side walls, each berth with a capacity of three persons. During the first winter no less than fifty-two unmarried women are said to have lived together in a rude wooden structure.

Late in the fall still another company of Erik Janssonists arrived, swelling the total number to four hundred. Of these seventy lived at Red Oak Grove. Fortunately the winter proved exceptionally mild, the ground being frozen for a period of only eight weeks. At times, however, the cold was so bitter as to prevent outdoor work.

Before undertaking a more detailed description of the Bishop Hill Colony, some account must be given of subsequent parties of Erik Janssonists that kept coming from time to time. In June, 1847, there were added to the settlement four hundred men and women and a large number of children. One hundred and eighty were brought over from Gefle on the ship "New York." The voyage had taken five months, the ship having been delayed by storms and laid up for repairs in an English port for six weeks. Not until March 12th did the passengers reach New York, much fatigued by sickness and famine. There they found another party of Erik Janssonists who had set sail from Göteborg. Even after reaching New York the members of these two parties were subjected to indescribable hardships. The effects of their subsisting for so long a time on unwholesome food now became apparent, and conditions were still further aggravated by the necessity of crowding the emigrants together like cattle into small and unsanitary quarters. They were attacked by scurvy in its most loathsome form; in many instances the flesh rotted from the bones and joint was severed from joint, the poor victims writhing with pain at the slightest touch or movement. Within a fortnight thirty persons died. The dead were placed by twos or threes into rough boxes and buried without ceremony. The most afflicted ones were sorted out and placed in a subterranean room where scant beds were prepared on the floor. Instead of providing suitable food and medical attention for the patients, the leaders prescribed fasting, while they went out in the city and provided them

selves amply with food and drink, maintaining that such a course could be taken without prejudice to their faith. Instead of giving comfort and solace to the sick and dying, they preached to them for two hours every morning and night, harshly denouncing them for their unbelief, which they declared was the chief cause of their sufferings. The leaders made daily attempts at performing miracles in the way of healing the sick; they compelled the patients to arise and ordered them to believe that they were healed, invoking dire punishment upon them, when they fell back powerless on their beds.

Several of the healthy members of the party, moved to compassion by the sufferings witnessed on every hand and revolting at the ignorance, hypocrisy and hardheartedness of the leaders, bade their companions farewell, declaring they could no longer endure the sight of the misery. These deserters the leaders took care to deprive of everything of value that they possessed.*

On April 26th, when the spring sun had melted the ice from the waterways, the survivors of the two parties were finally able to leave New York on their way to Illinois, taking the same route as their predecessors. The leaders of the combined parties were Anders Andersson from Thorstuna and a blacksmith by the name of Hammarbäck. All who were able had to travel on foot from Chicago to Bishop Hill. This slow mode of travel consumed ten days. To house the newcomers five new dugouts were built for the people, and additional ones for the horses and cattle, while to shut out the rain, the house of worship was provided with a solid roof of oak shingling.

The sixth party of emigrants reached Bishop Hill in the summer of 1849 under the leadership of Jonas Nylund from Delsbo, a papermaker's apprentice. He had gone to Norway and there induced a number of people to emigrate and join the new colony. Between Chicago and La Salle cholera broke out in this party, which the aforesaid Anders Andersson found on his return from a business trip to Chicago in a deplorable condition and, with good intent but lack of forethought, brought them to Bishop Hill, where the dreaded pest broke out forthwith.

A seventh party came over in 1850, under the joint leadership of Olof Johnson and Olof Stoneberg, who had returned to Sweden in order to collect moneys due and inheritances of minors, as also to gather up the remainder of the sect. The sum they brought back is said to have amounted to $6,000. The emigrant party was composed of 160 persons, who under Stoneberg's supervision embarked at Söderhamn. On the ocean ten persons died. At Buffalo the whole company was taken on board an old propeller steamer bound for Milwaukee. Owing to bad weather and breakage in the machinery, the trip took two weeks,

* The accuracy of this narrative is doubted or denied by certain survivors.

and their provisions gave out. In Michigan, where the steamer touched, cholera added to their miseries, carrying off fifty to sixty of the party before Milwaukee was reached. A Swedish-American of that city, C. Blanxius by name, learning by chance that a party of his countrymen had arrived, at once provided care and medical service for the sick. Upon learning afterwards that Stoneberghad several thousand dollars in his possession, he compelled him to pay the bills.

Later in the autumn of that year one Jöns Andersson brought over the eighth party, numbering eighty colonists who sailed from Gefle on the ship "Condor." They had one loss by death during the passage. In 1854 the ninth and last party of Erik Janssonists arrived, numbering seventy. This ended the actual exodus of the sect.

According to the ecclesiastical records, the Erik Janssonists in the provinces of Gestrikland and Helsingland numbered 913, all but 36 of whom lived in the last named province. Of the total number 649 were adults and 264 children; 409 were recruited from the so-called "readers." The greatest exodus of Erik Janssonists occurred in 1846, when 823 persons emigrated from the two provinces, Alfta alone furnishing 346, Ofvanaker 44, Voxna 40, etc. From the province of Dalarne 99 people emigrated, from Upland an equal number, and from Herjedalen 10 to 15.

Individual immigration to Bishop Hill continued throughout the period, 1846—1854, swelling the total to about 1,500. While the early emigrants were actuated solely by a desire for freedom of worship, the latter presumably were led by mercenary motives, awakened by the rumored prosperity of the colony.

In Sweden, Erik Janssonism was thus almost entirely eradicated, those of his converts who did not follow him to America returning to the established church or going over to other sects almost to a man. But even to this day persons in these parts have been known to persevere in their belief in Erik Jansson as "the new light sent by God." Erik Janssonism was also transplanted to Denmark, but gained only a mere handful of converts in that country.

Daily Life in the Colony

The daily life in the colony offered many peculiarities, the religious phase being the most pronounced. That the Erik Janssonists, who had emigrated in order to gain freedom to worship according to their own dictates, made sedulous use of their newfound liberty was but natural. During their first fall and winter in the new land, they held religious services twice every week-day and thrice on Sundays. Erik Jansson arose every morning at five and roused his people for matins. Half an hour later he made a second round, when all were required to gather immediately in the tabernacle for the morning services, consist-

ing of a sermon and prayers, often consuming two hours' time. At Christmas, 1846, a church bell was procured, which served the double purpose of calling the people to worship and to their meals. The second religious service of each day was held in the evening. Along in the spring of 1847, when work in the fields began, the morning and evening services were replaced by a short noon meeting, held in a shady spot in the woods adjoining Bishop Hill on the north. These meetings were generally conducted by Erik Jansson in person, sometimes by the assistance of Jonas Olsson, Anders Berglund, Nils Hedin or some other leader. Erik Jansson's own hymnbook was used, and in his sermons



Bishop Hill -The Old Colony Church

he dwelt incessantly on his God-given mission, the sinless state of his faithful followers, and similar doctrines.

For the propagation and perpetuation of Erik Janssonism twelve of the most gifted young men of the colony were selected in 1847 and given special instruction in the doctrines of the sect by the prophet himself and the most enlightened of his assistants. The prophet's prediction about the gift of speaking with tongues still remaining unfulfilled, the English language was made one of the studies. The classes generally met in the shadow of a great oaktree, but a dugout was also used for school purposes.

In the summer of 1848 the tabernacle, or church tent, was destroyed by fire, and the colonists at once began to build the edifice now known as the Old Colony Church, which is still one of the landmarks of Bishop Hill. It was completed in 1849, being built in three stories, the third forming the sanctuary while the first and second were

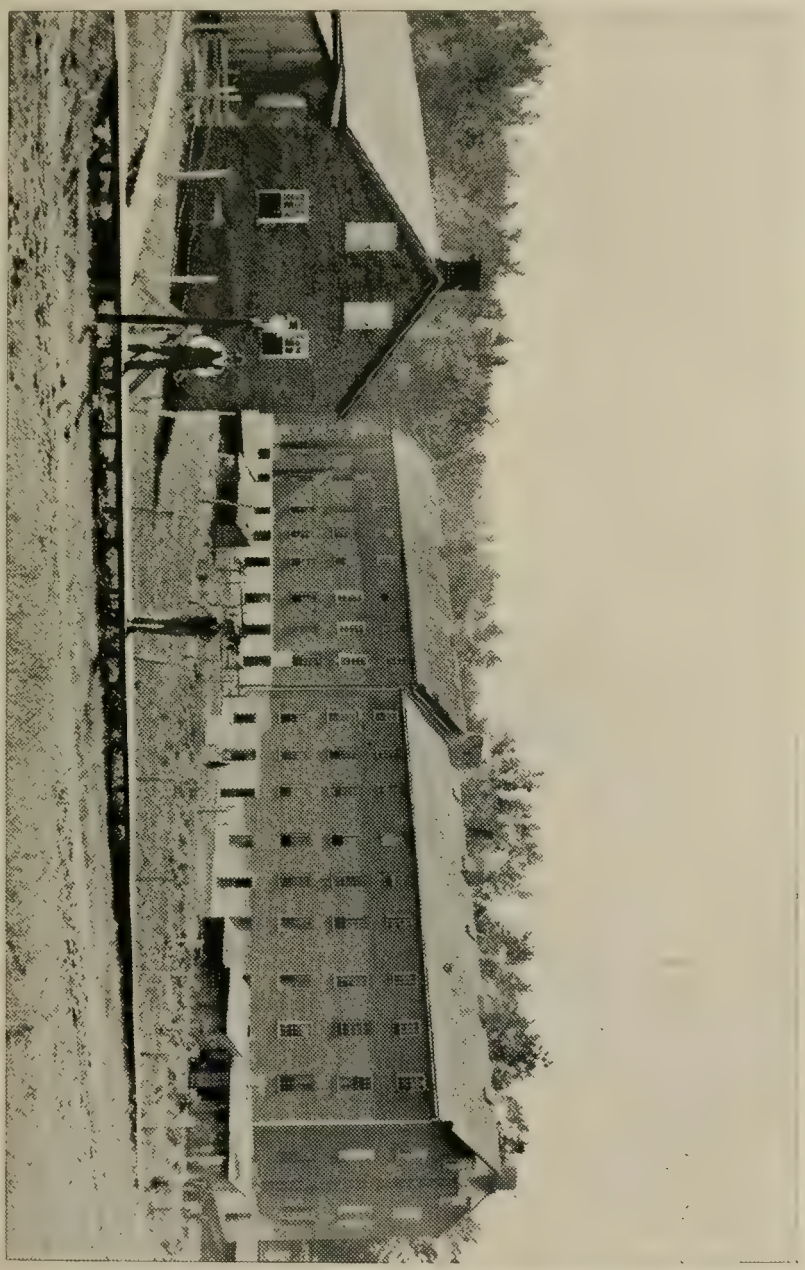
partitioned off into dwelling rooms, there being also a couple of such rooms in the third story.

Erik Jansson continued preaching to his faithful flock as long as he lived, though with some difficulty in his later years, owing to the loss of his teeth. The set of false teeth used by him after that formed such an impediment in his speech that his hearers had to strain themselves to the utmost in order to catch his meaning.

Provision was also made for the education of the young. During the first winter, Mrs. Margareta Hebbe instructed the illiterate elders in reading and writing, the school sessions being held in the tabernacle. After Mrs. Hebbe left the colony, Peter Hellström succeeded her as instructor. A similar school was opened at Red Oak Grove, where Karin Pettersson and a Mrs. Rönnquist acted as teachers. In January, 1847, an English kindergarden was established in one of the dugouts, and conducted by an American clergyman by the name of Talbot, assisted by Mrs. Sophia Pollock.

It was with the utmost difficulty that the colonists could procure flour for bread. The nearest flour mill was at Green River, twenty-eight miles away, the second nearest at Camden, the present village of Milan, a short distance from where the Rock River empties into the Mississippi. To these two points they sent their grain from time to time, but frequently the mills would be out of repair, necessitating still longer trips. In the meantime, the supply at home would give out, a real calamity in those days, when there were no neighbors from whom to borrow in an emergency. Then some substitute for bread had to be produced, and a couple of primitive hand mills were procured in which corn was ground into a coarse meal requiring 10 to 12 hours of cooking to make it palatable. The colonists were many and the capacity of the mills was small, so they had to grind by shifts all night in order to produce meal sufficient for the next day. In the large common refectory all dined together on food which was often insufficient and generally unpalatable. The situation was relieved to a great extent, when in 1847 a flour mill was built on Edward's Creek, but this stream would sometimes run dry, closing down the mill. In these emergencies the colonists would be called into requisition to tread the mill wheel, this arduous task falling principally to the lot of the twelve apostles to be. This method, however, proved too laborious, and man power was soon replaced by horse power. When this mill nevertheless proved unable to supply the demand, a windmill with two pairs of mill stones was built in January, 1848. The following year preparations were made for the erection of a steam power flour mill, which was completed in July, 1851. This establishment at once proved highly profitable, the farmers from near and far

bringing their grain, while all the surplus grain of the colony was made into flour for the market.



Bishop Hill Bakery and Brewery Building—"The Big Brick," Dining Hall, Kitchen and Dwelling

In the spring of 1847 the colony began to manufacture sun-dried brick, and several buildings of that material were put up; about the

same time a saw-mill was built at Red Oak Grove, where there was a tract of oak timber. The saw-mill was later traded for a parcel of land and another saw-mill, located on a small stream in Clover township. This mill was moved to Bishop Hill and located on Edward's Creek in 1848. In May the same year, eighty acres of timber land, with a saw-mill, in Weller township, was purchased from Cramer and Wilsey for $1,500. Thenceforth the colony was well supplied with lumber. Limestone was found in a ravine within the domain of the colony, and a man by the name of Philip Mauk taught the settlers the art of burning lime, yet large quantities of lime had to be bought. Brick kilns were also constructed, and gradually large and comfortable dwelling houses began to supplant the stuffy and unsanitary dugouts.

The rapid increase in population by immigration made the purchase of more land peremptory. Nov. 18, 1847, a quarter of section 17, in Weller township, was purchased of W. H. Griffin for $380, and before the end of the year other purchases were made as follows: 80 acres in section 17, 240 acres in section 16, and 39 acres additionally. Moreover, pieces of land were rented here and there in the neighborhood, some as far away as present Woodhull. Farming was carried on with great energy. Part of the lands bought were already planted to corn; other portions were turned into wheat fields. After the last-named land purchases no less than 350 acres were under cultivation. During that and the following years the colonists surrounded their domain on three sides with an earthen wall or fence.

The grain crop of the first year (1847) was cut with scythes in Swedish fashion; the next year so-called cradles came into use. In 1849, during harvest time, thirty cradles were kept working night and day, but on finding the dews injurious to the health of the harvest hands night work was discontinued. Each cradle had a capacity of six acres per day. Women generally worked in the field binding the grain, while young boys and girls were employed to gather the sheaves and the aged to do the shocking. The last named year a reaper was procured from La Grange, but it was sent back as unsatisfactory and the cradles again brought into use, several of the men having acquired great skill in handling this implement. Anders Kilström and Hans Dahlgren, for instance, each cradled 14 acres of wheat from sunrise to sundown.

The harvest over for the season, a pleasant spectacle was enacted. The two hundred laborers formed in a double line, with the men in the lead, the women following, and the children bringing up the rear, and marched back to the village to the tune of merry folksongs. Arriving home, the reapers arranged themselves around the long tables in the largest dining hall, where a feast was spread, and thus was

celebrated their first harvest festival with merrymaking and thanksgiving.

In the year 1852 improved reapers were introduced, replacing the inferior cradle and giving a different character to the work of harvesting the crops.

The threshing of the crop of 1847 was left to one Broderick, who used a very simple and imperfect threshing contrivance. The machine afterwards became the property of the colonists who proceeded to build a new one of the same type but with many improvements.

The colonists did not, however, confine themselves to the cultivation of wheat and corn. Flax was raised, especially at first, with still greater success, owing to the fact that this was one of the staple products of Helsingland from time out of mind, and the emigrants from that province were experts in flax culture. The flax was prepared and woven by the colonists themselves and the linen products found a ready sale in the neighborhood. From the flax crop of 1847 12,473 yards of linen was woven and sold. The production increased yearly, reaching 28,322 yards of linen cloth and 3,257 yards of carpets in 1851. The linen industry was continued until 1860, but it was reduced in 1857 on account of competition with the eastern factories, who dominated the western market as soon as shipping facilities were improved. Up to that time the colony had produced for the general market a total of 130,309 yards of linen goods and 22,569 yards of carpets, together with all goods needed for domestic use. From these figures it appears that this industry was an important source of income to the colony during its first decade. After 1857 flax was raised only for home consumption. The total, including 1860, was 169,386 yards.

To the women and children, as well as to the men, belonged the credit for this flourishing industry. The latter cultivated the flax and prepared it, but the women did the spinning and weaving, while children were employed in the spooling and other minor processes. The first few years, while the number of looms was very limited, the weavers were divided into shifts who kept the looms going day and night. Thus the women were employed during the winter months. In summer the women, as they were accustomed from the old country, took part in the outdoor work with an endurance equal to that of the men.

Though zealots in the matter of religion, the colonists were no temperance fanatics. Whisky was used to some extent among them, and in order to supply the growing demand a still was established. Their indulgence in liquor, however, was repugnant to the neighbors and brought the colonists into ill repute.

For the sake of greater variety in the matter of food, and possibly with an eye to extra profit, Erik Jansson in 1848 established a fishing

camp on Rock Island, in the Mississippi, near the present site of the city of Rock Island, and placed it in charge of N. J. Hollander and a half dozen other colonists. Fish was also obtained from the Illinois River.

The lack of wholesome food, especially during the first year, combined with the unhealthy conditions in the overcrowded dugouts, caused a very high death rate. Fevers, ague and diarrhea, the most prevalent diseases, claimed many victims. In Red Oak alone 50 persons died during the winter of 1846 and the winter months of 1847 claimed no less than 96 lives in Bishop Hill. The dead bodies were loaded into wagons and buried without any ritual or ceremony whatever. Many corpses were not even provided with coffins. These grewsome conditions drove many of the healthy colonists from Bishop Hill in spite of Erik Jansson's efforts to prevent desertions by posting armed pickets at night. The sick were not permitted to call in a physician; they were to be healed by faith alone. Those who did not believe, the prophet condemned to "the stones of hell." Jonas Hedström of Victoria was so shocked by the brutality and stolidity of Erik Jansson towards his people that he threatened legal proceedings, unless medical attendance was provided. Thereby Erik Jansson was ultimately induced to engage an American physician, whom he also consulted in his own behalf. When the people were famished from lack of nourishment, the prophet evinced the same stolid indifference to their wants and sufferings. He sought to relieve their hunger not by supplying food, but by imposing repeated fasts. To their prayers and complaints he replied that if they had faith they could very well subsist on an eighth less than the rations they had been accustomed to in the old country, arguing that their lack of faith was the primary cause of their maladies.

The continued misery of the colonists again moved Jonas Hedström to protest. He called the attention of the colonists, and rightly so, to the fact that there was absolutely no necessity for all the suffering and privation to which they were subjected at the behest of Erik Jansson. The country was large, he argued, land was to be had almost for nothing; settlers in other localities were prospering on their well kept farms, and the same opportunity was open to all. In the fall of 1848 these representations resulted in probably two hundred persons leaving the colony, mostly joining the Methodists, a step which led to long and bitter religious warfare between the Erik Janssonists and the Methodists. The deserters settled at Victoria, Galesburg, and neighboring localities. The great majority of the colonists, however, were not to be shaken in their faith, but continued under the harsh rule of the prophet with remarkable patience and forbearance.

Another decree of Erik Jansson in the early stages of the colony, causing much adverse comment, was one forbidding marriage.* This interdict soon had very damaging results, many young persons who desired to get married simply leaving the colony for other parts, where they were free to establish a home and family. When the prophet saw how his ban on matrimony worked, he declared that it had been dictated by "present need," meaning the lack of individual dwellings and other untoward conditions. He now alleged that he had received a new revelation to the effect "that the sons and daughters of Israel should marry and take in marriage, multiply and fill the earth." Now, therefore, all those that God had given a desire to marry should enter wedlock without delay, on peril of being condemned to "the stones of hell." Erik Jansson himself and all the subordinate leaders became extremely active as matchmakers among the young people, causing a veritable marriage epidemic throughout the colony. On several successive Sundays between 20 and 30 marriages were solemnized, but the fever ultimately subsided and normal conditions were restored.

The material as well as the spiritual interests of the colony were looked after by Erik Jansson personally. He exercised the same arbitrary despotism in the one field as in the other. This man's chief ambition was to rule and govern, no matter how. In the administration of the colonial affairs he was supremely arbitrary, his incompetence and recklessness bringing the community to the verge of ruin, as will be presently shown.

When it had been decided to call in a physician, an Englishman by the name of Robert D. Foster made application for the place and was accepted, but afterwards discharged by the colonists. Erik Jansson then made a secret agreement with Foster to this effect: he was to be the body physician of the prophet at a compensation of $2,000 per annum, with the privilege of extra charges for services rendered other members of the colony.

Foster, who seems to have been a sharp and crafty fellow, in a short time won the unlimited confidence of Erik Jansson. At La Grange, in Western township, 18 miles from Bishop Hill, he owned a tract of 1,116 acres of land, only a small part of which was under cultivation. This he desired to dispose of to Erik Jansson, but at first offered for sale only the growing wheat crop. Without making a thorough investigation Erik Jansson closed the deal at all too high a price. The harvesting and threshing of the wheat had to be done by the colonists without compensation. But Erik Jansson did not stop at this. Before he knew whether he had gained or lost by the deal, he bought the land itself for $3,000. These transactions as well as the

* Landgren quotes testimony to the effect that Erik Jansson from the outset urged strict sexual abstinence in wedlock.

previous agreement with Foster were made without a word to the colonists, and the same secrecy was observed in the matter of payments. The money in the treasury not sufficing, Erik Jansson turned over to Foster much of the property of the colony, consisting of horses, oxen, cows, hogs and calves, together with wagons, implements, clothing, bedding, grain, provisions, etc., leaving the people almost destitute of what they needed for their subsistence and by which to cultivate the soil. Actual want resulted for all but Erik Jansson, who maintained his own household and took about all that was left for his own use.

This disastrous deal was made, and its consequences were felt, in the summer of 1849. About the same time the colony was visited with another and greater affliction, but not even that could touch the impervious heart and shake the imperturbable selfassurance of Erik Jansson. The sixth immigrant party, under the leadership of Jonas Nylund, had just arrived. Cholera had broken out among them en route, and they brought the contagion to the colony. The pest began to spread July 22nd and raged till the middle of September, sometimes craving as high as twelve victims per day. Dr. Foster was totally helpless. This man, who had boasted his ability to cure ninety-nine out of a hundred cholera patients, failed to save a single life. The prophet himself now proved lacking in that firm faith which he had demanded of others by fleeing with his family to La Grange. After a short stay, he ordered those colonists still immune from the pest to follow him thither, but these brought the contagion, resulting in the death here of seventy cholera victims.

No longer safe in La Grange, Erik Jansson took his family and several women to the fishery camp he had established on Rock Island, in the Mississippi, but even here the plague pursued him, carrying off his wife and two children. In spite of his incompetence, Dr. Foster still enjoyed the full confidence of Erik Jansson and was permitted to accompany him to Rock Island. As an instance of the blind faith he reposed in this impostor and his cool indifference in the midst of dire misfortune, it may be stated that while his wife lay in the death-throes which a few hours later put an end to her untold sufferings, Erik Jansson offered to wager $10,000 with certain physicians of the city of Rock Island that Dr. Foster would save her.

Just after his wife's death, Erik Jansson began to plan a new marital union, "in order to give a new spiritual mother to the children of Israel," as he put it. On a Sunday some three weeks after her demise, the prophet in his sermon made known his purpose without reserve. The inner testimony of all the faithful, said he, was to determine the choice of this new "spiritual mother," and she also was to receive such assurance within her own heart. After services, all should come to

him and make known what the inner voice had spoken. The general verdict is not known, but this much is true, that two women appeared as claimants for the vacant place. Sophia Pollock, who had accompanied Erik Jansson and his family from New York, was the successful candidate, and the same day she assumed the management of the domestic work of the colony. She also acted as Erik Jansson's secretary. A week later the wedding was solemnized with joy and hilarity on the part of the prophet but with a feeling of uneasiness among the guests, who were unable to forget that only a month had elapsed since his first wife died.

Sophia Pollock, the second wife of Erik Jansson, was the daughter of a merchant of Göteborg and was born in that city. Her father having become bankrupt, she was adopted by a well to do family that moved to New York, where she was married at an early age to a sailor, who soon after went to sea and never returned. She was remarried to one Pollock of New York, principal of a private school, who after giving her an education, engaged her as his assistant. When Erik Jansson arrived in New York the couple made his acquaintance and afterwards accompanied him to Victoria. The Pollocks were prominent in Rev. Hedström's flock in New York and her going over to Erik Jansson was no small triumph for the latter. At the founding of Bishop Hill Mrs. Pollock joined the colony against the wishes of her husband.* Being widowed for the second time shortly afterwards, she subsequently married Linjo Lars Gabrielsson, who after a brief union succumbed to the cholera. She is said to have been a personable and gifted woman, and proved an invaluable helpmeet to Erik Jansson during the remainder of his life.

In the meantime, the straits to which Erik Jansson's rash business transactions had brought the colonists opened the eyes of the prudent, who contemplated with fears and misgivings the desperate state of affairs. The day after his wedding, Erik Jansson had a visit from three persons, Jonas Olsson, Nils Hedin, and E. U. Norberg, the latter remonstrating with him on his reckless extravagance in the management of their common property. The people, said he, had toiled beyond their power of endurance in order to accumulate wealth for the common good, but their wishes and opinions as to the disposal of it had not once been consulted. Instead of being treated as friends and brothers, they were held as slaves, bound to obey blindly his every beck and nod, Norberg concluded.

The lecture, however, had not the slightest effect on the despotic

* Her husband, who loved her as he did his life, went with her and tried to persuade her to return. But for the sake of her soul she dared not, for Jansson preached that there was no salvation outside of his New Jerusalem, and her husband died in Victoria, of a broken heart. Mrs. Pollock lost her reason over her husband's death, but shortly recovered. (MIKKELSEN.)



Bishop Hill—The Steeple Building

prophet. He replied briefly that he simply acted in accordance with his "inner testimony," meaning the dictates of his conscience, and that all who complained of his actions were the dupes of the devil.

Norberg was from Ullervad, Vestergötland, where he had held the office of king's bailiff, and had preceded Erik Jansson to America. Being a just and clearsighted man, he appeared time and again as the spokesman of the oppressed colonists and the defender of their rights as against the tyranny of those in power. Had they taken his advice, the colony doubtless would have met a better fate.

John Ruth, the Adventurer, and the Assassination of Erik Jansson

In the autumn of 1848 there came to the colony a trio af adventurers, viz., the aforementioned Erik Wester, one Zimmerman and John Ruth, alias Root, the latter destined to figure prominently in a tragic episode in the history of Bishop Hill.

John Ruth was born in Stockholm, supposedly of a family from Norrland, and served there as sergeant in the army. He emigrated to America, presumably on account of some crime or breach of discipline, enlisted in the United States army and served in the Mexican War. When Ruth and his confreres arrived at Bishop Hill the aforesaid "marriage epidemic" was at its height, and he took advantage of the situation by marrying Charlotta Lovisa Jansson, a cousin of the prophet. Being of a rowdyish disposition and an unruly temperament, he presently had a disagreement with Dr. Foster. Erik Jansson sided with the latter, giving rise to a feud between himself and Ruth, which brought disaster to both. Not more than a month after his marriage, Ruth wished to leave and take his wife with him, but Erik Jansson would not permit it, basing his prohibition on a written agreement, drawn up and signed by the contracting parties at their marriage, requiring the husband to obtain a divorce and let his wife remain, should he ever desire to leave the colony. She dared not desert the colony contrary to the prophet's wishes, fearing thereby to incur the wrath of God, for so Erik Jansson had taught. When all his persuasions proved in vain, Ruth went his way alone, but remained for several months in the neighborhood in the hope of ultimately inducing his wife to accompany him.

At the end of that time he returned to his wife, who had given birth to a son in the interval. When at the prophet's behest she still refused to come away with him, Ruth became enraged, making dire threats against them both, and resolved to force his wife into obedience. In order to give the act an appearance of legality he engaged a couple of county officers and, accompanied by a fourth person, a man from

Cambridge by the name of Stanley, he appeared one Sunday in the fall of 1849 to claim his wife, who agreed to follow him, fearing to offer resistance. Ruth departed at once, with his wife and child, Stanley accompanying them, while the two county officers went another way. He left Bishop Hill just as the people came from church and sat down to their common meal. He had been detected, however, and less than two miles off a number of armed pursuers caught up with him, barred further progress, and commanded him to give up the woman and child to be returned to the colony. Ruth drew his revolver and threatened to shoot, but Stanley dissuaded him, deeming it the part of discretion to bow to a superior force.* In a special conveyance, which soon reached the spot, the wife and child were brought back to Bishop Hill.

Thus thwarted in his attempt to carry off his wife, Ruth on the very next day swore out warrants for the arrest of Erik Jansson and others and had his wife summoned as a witness at the trial, which was to take place at Cambridge. She was brought there by a county officer who had a secret understanding with Ruth, and confined in a room in the hotel, where she was not permitted to see any of her friends. Neither Erik Jansson nor Ruth were present at the trial. The latter was represented by his counsel. That night Ruth took his wife away to the home of some friends in the Rock River settlement. Several Erik Janssonists stated under oath that Ruth had violated the right of domicile during the hour of worship and secured a warrant for his arrest. When this was to be served, the friends of Ruth interfered in his behalf, preventing the arrest.

At Bishop Hill various plans for the rescue of the abducted woman were evolved. Erik Jansson asserted that this must be done, even though half of Bishop Hill should be sacrificed. Not to be taken by surprise, Ruth secretly left Rock River with his wife and went first to Davenport and from there to Chicago, where they arrived on March 15th, 1850, the woman finding asylum for herself and child in the home of a married sister. By stealth, Erik Jansson succeeded in discovering her whereabouts and sent five trusty henchmen to bring her back. The scheme succeeded; the woman and child were returned to Bishop Hill and so carefully concealed that few knew her hidingplace.

Deprived of his wife a second time, Ruth broke into a furious rage and swore to wreak bloody vengeance on Erik Jansson and his colony. He proceeded to Green River, and, by describing the Erik Janssonists as a band of criminals that ought to be annihilated, he

* Another version of the story has it that while Ruth was holding down his wife in the bottom of the rig, his revolver, which he had placed beside him, was snatched by one of the colonists (who were unarmed) and leveled at his head, when Ruth surrendered the woman, who upon being given her choice, accompanied her rescuers back to Bishop Hill.

succeeded in raising an armed posse of about 70 men, with which he advanced on Bishop Hill in order to capture Erik Jansson and rescue his wife. A thorough search was instituted, yet neither was to be found. The posse then gave the colonists one week in which to deliver the wife of Ruth to them, under penalty of having Bishop Hill burned to the ground. Frightened by this threat, Erik Jansson did not dare to remain at Bishop Hill, where he had been in hiding, but went to St. Louis with his family, Mrs. Ruth and several others.

The economic state of Bishop Hill continuing desperate, the colonists conceived the idea of relieving the situation at one stroke by fitting out an expedition of goldseekers for California, where rich gold fields had been discovered two years before. As members of the expedition the following nine men were selected: Jonas Olson,* P. O. Blomberg, P. N. Blom, Peter Jansson, E. O. Lind, C. M. Myrtengren, C. G. Blombergson, Sven Norlin and Lars Stålberg. A number of these having taken part in the rescue expedition to Chicago, and fearing the revenge of that dangerous man Ruth, they arranged to leave the colony simultaneously with Erik Jansson, starting for California on March 28th.† After a journey replete with perils and hardships, they reached Hanktown, Cal., Aug. 12th, hale and hearty, except Blombergson, who died after two weeks. Of the other eight, all but Stålberg, who remained in California, returned home in the course of the year 1851, having found barely enough of the precious metal to pay the cost of the expedition. The plan to put the colony on its feet again by means of Californian gold thus fell through. Nothing now remained for the colonists to do but to continue work in the fields, in house and yard, at sawmill and brickyard, and by redoubled energy repair the losses.

About this time Jon Olsson Stenberg of Stenbo removed from Moline to Bishop Hill and upon joining the colony is said to have contributed a substantial amount of money to the community.‡

Late in the evening of April 1st, Ruth returned at the head of the same armed posse and demanded the surrender of his wife. Her absence making that impossible, a respite of several days was again given, coupled with a renewed threat of burning the village, should the colonists fail to fulfill the condition. When the time was up, the crowd

* This and similar names are henceforth given in the form their bearers wrote them in this country.

† According to the diary of Jonas Olson, three of the men set out March 23rd, going via Rock Island, through Iowa, etc., the others apparently on March 29th, going by way of St. Louis. The two parties joined on the way and reached Hanktown (Placerville), Cal., Aug. 12th, according to Olson.

‡ In "Sverige i Amerika" Peterson, writing about Jonas Olson, illustrates that man's great persuasive powers with a story of how he "discovered" Stenberg and "dug up" $50,000 in gold, while the California party were in the gold fields and found nothing. Stenberg's fortune, it is safe to say, could not have reached such a figure. Besides, the author apparently forgets that Jonas Olson himself was the leader of the party of goldseekers.

again appeared, with reinforcements, evidently with a grim determination to carry out the threat. The Mormon colony at Nauvoo had been wiped out by fire three and a half years earlier, and that event was still fresh in the memory of all. The passions of the incendiaries were keyed to a high pitch, but fortunately the catastrophe was averted just as they were about to throw out the firebrands. Norberg, who had been driven from the colony by the odium heaped upon him by Erik Jansson, got word of the intended outrage and the day set for it, and, quickly mustering another posse of well armed men, he marched to Bishop Hill and in a parley with the mob dissuaded them from violence.

Again thwarted in his plans, Ruth swore vengeance on Erik Jansson personally and sent him word that he would shoot him down at the first opportunity. The prophet was living high at St. Louis while his deluded followers at Bishop Hill were haggard from hunger and privation. Erik Jansson succeeded in obtaining considerable loans on the strength of ingenious newspaper articles setting forth the flourishing condition of his colony and putting himself in the most favorable light. For the evident purpose of strengthening his credit, he subscribed for $50,000 worth of railway stock at this juncture.

His fear of Ruth was somewhat allayed on hearing that the attack on Bishop Hill, planned by that desperado, had failed, so he returned home on May 11th. He arrived on a Saturday, and while preaching his sermon the following day in the colonial church, he seemed agitated by fear, as evidenced by his quoting II. Timothy 4: 6-8 and at the subsequent communion service Matthew 26: 29 in reference to himself. A large number of law suits had been entered against him in the county circuit court during his absence, and in order to defend his interests he went to Cambridge the following Monday, May 13th.* That morning he seems to have had a definite presentiment of danger, for on starting from home he is said to have asked his driver, one Mr. Mascall, "Well, will you stop the bullet for me today?" About one o'clock p. m., during the noon recess of the court, Erik Jansson stood near a window in the court room, conversing with Attorney Samuel P. Brainerd. Suddenly Ruth appeared outside the window and put the question to Erik Jansson, whether he would give him back his wife and child.† The prophet retorted that a sow would be a more fit companion for Ruth than a woman. Maddened by the insult, Ruth rushed into the building and the next instant stood in the doorway leading to the courtroom, loudly calling Erik Jansson by name. When the prophet turned to look, Ruth fired a pistol shot directly at

* An examination of the clerk's record disproves the assertion made by almost every writer on this subject that the case of Ruth vs Jansson was before the court on that day.

† According to Mikkelsen, friends of Erik Jansson claim no words were exchanged between the slayer and his victim prior to the firing of the shot.

him, the bullet piercing the chest of Erik Jansson, who fell backwards and expired in a few minutes. As his victim fell, Ruth fired a second shot, which only tore a hole in the wounded man's clothing. Such was the tragic end of the checkered and peculiar career of Erik Jansson, the Prophet.

His death created a tremendous sensation and deep sorrow in the colony. Nils Hedin and Jacob Jacobson, who had witnessed the tragedy in the courtroom, brought the dead body to Bishop Hill, where it was interred several days later. Many of the simple-minded colonists could scarcely believe that their master was really dead, some even hoped that he would rise forthwith from the grave. A simple wooden cross at first marked the last restingplace of Erik Jansson, the self-appointed ambassador of God on earth. This was replaced later by a handsome monument of white marble.

At the time of the assassination, the courtroom was filled with people, who had no difficulty in catching the assassin. He was arrested and, after a trial pending two years, convicted and sentenced to three years in the penitentiary. After having served half of his term he was released in response to the numerous petitions for his pardon that were sent to Governor Joel A. Matteson. Ruth then went to Chicago where he spent the remainder of his life among the scum of the city. His stormy life ended in a revolting tragedy. While engaged in a drunken brawl with two other ruffians in a saloon, he was badly bruised and finally knocked to the floor, when one of his assailants jumped upon his chest and broke several ribs, the injuries causing his death shortly afterwards. Among the few Erik Janssonists in the old country the belief was general, however, that the murderer of the prophet was "consumed by worms" while in prison.

The Incorporation of Bishop Hill and the Administration of Jonas Olson and Olof Johnson

After the murder of Erik Jansson the property of the colony, which was all in the leader's name, devolved upon his widow. Mrs. Sophia Pollock Jansson knew more about the colony's affairs than any other person and took the reins of government into her own hands. But women were not allowed to speak in public, therefore Andrew Berglund, one of the assistant preachers, was appointed the spiritual leader, as also guardian of Erik Jansson's son, who, according to the expressed wish of the prophet, was to become his successor. At the funeral Mrs. Jansson stepped forward and placed her hand on Berglund's bowed head, creating him guardian of the heir to the leadership of God's chosen people until the boy should have attained his majority. Berglund thus became nominally both the temporal and spiritual head of

the community, but in matters of business no important step was taken without the knowledge and consent of Mrs. Jansson. The affairs of the colony were very much involved, and the creditors caused the new management much worry. The situation was somewhat relieved when Olof Johnson and Olof Stoneberg returned from Sweden with the aforesaid $6,000 in inheritances collected. Then the farming and industries of Bishop Hill were pursued with renewed vigor.

Berglund was not permitted long to exercise leadership. A rival soon appeared in the person of Jonas Olson, who was on his way to



Andrew Berglund
Preacher and Leader



Jacob Jacobson
Colony Trustee

the gold country at the time, and did not learn of the death of Erik Jansson till after his arrival in California. Actuated by a desire to succeed to the leadership he decided to return forthwith. He abandoned the expedition, having had no faith in it from the outset, and started back home with a couple of the men, leaving the rest to follow at their leisure. Arriving in Bishop Hill in February, 1851, he at once began to set matters right. He persuaded several of his friends that Erik Jansson's prophetic dignity was not to be handed down as a heritage, for the reason that no other man could receive the Holy Spirit in like measure; consequently, he argued, the present leadership ought to be abolished for a complete equality of rights. His friends were easily

won over, and his views gained ground, being disseminated guardedly at first, but soon without any pretense of secrecy.

The guardians of Erik Jansson's son could not claim infallibility of judgment, and many were dissatisfied to be governed by a woman. A respectable minority, while admitting Jansson's other claims, were not disposed to recognize those in behalf of his heir. It was this growing sentiment of dissatisfaction, which Jonas Olson voiced when he denounced Berglund as a usurper and demanded his abdication. Jonas Olson's standing added weight to his words, and ere long the democratic spirit which he represented prevailed. The movement also gained strength from the operation of another circumstance. The affairs of the community were in such a condition that a strong and able man was needed to conduct it through the pending crisis. Jonas Olson was such a man, and to him the people instinctively looked for guidance. Thus it happened that, although no formal election or transfer of power took place, the leadership passed from the guardians of Erik Jansson's son into the hands of Jonas Olson. With his advent into power the claims of the family of Jansson retreat into the background until, upon the adoption of the charter in 1853, they practically disappear. In the struggle between autocracy and democracy the latter prevailed, but it carried with it the supremacy of Jonas Olson in spiritual and temporal affairs for years to come. This man's ambition to rule was probably as great as that of Erik Jansson, but it must be said to his credit that in general he made more discreet use of his power.

During the troublous times of religious persecution in Sweden Jonas Olson's knowledge of men and affairs had more than once rescued the sinking cause of the Erik Janssonists. After the flight of their leader he had been the chief agent in bringing about their emigration. Now his gifts and attainments, which latter were not inconsiderable in an untutored farmer, once more came to be of service to the people—and to himself.

A democratic form of government was now established, quite different from that to which the Erik Janssonists had been accustomed. Special superintendents or foremen were appointed for the various departments of work, these to be discharged at the discretion of the colonists themselves. These foremen, who also constituted the governing body, met at brief intervals to deliberate and act on matters of common concern. Important questions were referred to the people for their decision. This form of government proved beneficial in every respect. Agriculture and manufacture flourished, the most pressing debts were paid, want was followed by plenty, and the future looked bright and full of promise. The cultivation of broomcorn, begun in

1851, under the direction of an American named Davenport, proved particularly profitable. One large brick structure after another was built, and maples and other shade trees were planted to beautify the landscape. Many of the colonists were expert artisans, whose products found a ready sale.

Although the colony was governed by the will of the majority, Jonas Olson was the controlling spirit. This man did not flaunt his ambition, but gained favor with the people by showing great zeal for the common welfare.

From the first the colonists had owned all property in common; not even the arbitrary conduct of Erik Jansson had suggested the necessity of a change in that respect. But the more the wealth of the community increased, the more evident was the need of specific regulations governing the ownership of property. The only way to obtain a satisfactory basis seemed to be to incorporate the community under the laws of the state. Under the existing order, the colony could not legally own property in its own name; in every instance property was acquired through purchase made in the name of some individual, at whose death the transfer to the community would meet with legal obstacles and entail trouble and expense. This fact Jonas Olson made to serve his ends. In conjunction with a few intimates, he drafted a charter for the Bishop Hill Colony, for passage by the state legislature. Signatures to this document were obtained from the majority of the adult members of the colony without any explanation save that the list of names was to be appended to a petition asking the legislature to grant the charter.

Two of the colonists, the aforementioned E. U. Norberg and August Bandholtz, a German, who had married into the colony, being more prudent than the others, asked to see the proposed charter before affixing their signatures. After some hesitation, the draft was shown to Norberg, who made the pertinent objection that the trustees therein nominated had not been duly elected by the colonists but had arbitrarily placed themselves at the head; furthermore, a number of them were interrelated by blood or marriage, a circumstance presaging the rise of a family autocracy prejudicial to the rights of the individual. These objections, publicly made, caused the colonists to rise in protest against the proposed charter, which for the moment seemed doomed to defeat.

Jonas Olson, however, was master of the situation. After being closeted with Olof Johnson for several hours of secret deliberation, he declared to the assembled colonists that the proposed charter ought by no means to be changed. He insisted that the trustees would need

all the power it conveyed, but suggested that the colonists might restrict this power and control their acts by passing special rules. Norberg protested that no special rules could be enforced at variance with a constitution once ratified. Jonas Olson maintained his point, adding that, after all, the charter would be a mere formality, inasmuch as the colonists were God's people, with the divine precepts inscribed in their hearts and consciences and with the Holy Writ for their fundamental law, making all temporal laws superfluous. So convincing arguments by the foremost leader silenced the opposition—all but the obstreperous and heretical Norberg, who continued to object.



Olof Stoneberg



Peter Johnson

Trustees of the Bishop Hill Colony

The proposed charter, together with a petition for its passage, was sent to the legislature, and, after some pressure from the trustees to be, it was granted on Jan. 17, 1853. The seven self-appointed trustees, who were named in the articles of incorporation and whose appointment was thus ratified by the legislature, were the following: Jonas Olson, Olof Johnson, Jonas Erickson, Jacob Jacobson, Swan Swanson, Peter Johnson, a brother of the prophet, and Jonas Kronberg. The first five were from Söderala and were all related by blood; Kronberg was from Alfta. Peter Johnson was succeeded in 1859 by Olof Stoneberg, one of the colony preachers. According to the wording of the charter, they were to hold their positions for life, or during good behavior. They were removable by a majority vote of the male members of the colony.

The conduct of affairs by the seven trustees for the first few years offered no ground for complaint. They seemed desirous of convincing the colonists that their mistrust had been entirely groundless, and the people were thus led to repose the fullest confidence in the trustees. The danger of arbitrary action, implied in the charter, was entirely forgotten, being obscured by incessant preaching of the theocratic doctrine. The members of the community were persuaded to adopt, on May 6, 1854, a set of by-laws, providing for the holding of an annual business meeting, when the trustees were to submit a full and complete report of the past year's business, but in no sense limiting the authority of the trustees or extending the privileges of the colonists. A draft previously submitted by Norberg and Jonas Olson had been rejected by the trustees for the good and sufficient reason that it would have had the opposite effect. The principal necessity for the early adoption of by-laws lay in the fact that the charter contained no provision for the admittance and expulsion of members of the colony. On this point the by-laws stipulated that insubordination in faith, teaching or living was punishable by expulsion with no compensation to banished members, except as the trustees might see fit to make. By this time it could be easily perceived that the popularization of the form of government had been more apparent than real. The colonists were unaccustomed to self-government. Their leaders hardly looked upon themselves as servants of the people, but rather as authoritative interpreters of the will of God. The seven self-constituted trustees were all persons who had been appointed to positions of trust under Erik Jansson and who considered that they had a perfect right to formal recognition of the power which they already virtually enjoyed. In reality the distribution of authority remained very much the same as before. Through the tireless industry of the colonists, the wealth of the community was materially increased during the first years of the administration of the trustees. All realty (except the Foster tract) owned by the colony in the time of Erik Jansson, but subsequently sold, was re-purchased and new extensive tracts of land were added to the colony's holdings. The reputation of the colony and its financial credit also improved.

According to the annual report submitted by the trustees on Jan. 21, 1855, the colony owned 8,028 acres of land, improved and unimproved, 50 building lots in Galva, valued at $10,000, and ten shares of stock in the Central Military Tract Railroad, valued at $1,000. The live stock numbered 109 horses and mules, 586 head of cattle, and 1,000 hogs. All other assets such as wheat, flax, broom corn, provisions and general merchandise, were valued at $49,570.

While the colony enjoyed marked material progress, it suffered spiritual decadence. The former religious zeal had apparently cooled,

while the material interests pressed to the fore and engrossed the minds of the people. The Erik Janssonists formerly had sharply criticised the state church for its formalism and lack of spiritual ardor. Now that their own zeal had subsided, they were guilty of the same faults. Nevertheless, regular divine services were held, the principal preachers being Jonas Olson, Anders Berglund, Nils Hedin, Olof Osberg and Olof Stoneberg. Yet, any member who so desired had the right to preach. The services consisted of prayers, singing and the reading and expounding of passages from the Scriptures.





Olof Johnson Swan Swanson
Trustees of the Bishop Hill Colony

Under Jonas Olson's leadership the religious tendency was in some measure one of conservative retrogression. He eliminated some of the excesses of the Janssonist theology and effected a partial return to the devotionalism of the Pietists and Readers, abolishing Erik Jansson's catechism by degrees and thoroughly revising his hymnbook in 1857. As modified, the religion of the colony had a close resemblance to Methodism. The singing at divine service was particularly beautiful and inspiring, owing to the fervor evinced by the young people. The spoken language used in the sermons, however, was not always the best, being sometimes a mixture of provincial Swedish and bad English. Many colonists had learned to speak the latter language fluently, and a school was maintained, where instruction was given in the subjects

of reading, writing, ciphering, and other branches.* Higher education was odious to the colonists; they feared that "learning might tend to vanity." Several of the trustees and spiritual leaders, however, realizing their ignorance, began to acquire knowledge on their own account. A large schoolhouse was built in 1860, that being the last structure erected by the colony as such. From principle, the trustees were opposed to newspapers, yet a weekly Swedish paper called "The Swedish Republican" was started by them at Galva, in July, 1856, with S. Cronsioe as editor. The paper ceased publication after a short period.

Success and prosperity made Jonas Olson and Olof Johnson vain and led them to believe and to proclaim openly that the material welfare of the colony was the result of the wise administration and successful speculations of the board of trustees, rather than the fruit of the labors of the people themselves. As their ambition grew, so did their independence. Great enterprises would be started and large contracts entered into without previous notice to the colonists, often, it is claimed, without the knowledge of any one besides Jonas Olson and Olof Johnson. Should any one inquire into the common affairs, he would be sharply rebuked for his mistrust of the administration.

The despotism of the trustees, like that of Erik Jansson, showed itself in a proclamation forbidding marriages for a certain period. This prohibition provoked constant irritation and eventually proved one of the chief factors of disintegration. The edict was brought about in the following manner: Nils Hedin, the only one of Erik Jansson's twelve apostles who possessed the ability of propagating his master's teachings, had made missionary journeys to Hopedale, N. Y., to the Perfectionists in Oneida, N. Y., and to the Rappists in Economy, Pa., and persuaded 25 or 30 persons in Hopedale to move to Bishop Hill. In 1854 he made a trip to the Shaker Colony at Pleasant Hill, Ky., and there also succeeded in gaining many converts. His visit to the latter settlement had convinced Hedin of the advantages of celibacy. This conviction he succeeded in imparting to Jonas Olson, who thereupon issued a marriage interdict on alleged moral grounds and on the further plea that if all young women became wives much of the outdoor work performed by them would be left undone to the detriment of economic progress. After the edict had been in force for about a year, arousing strong resentment, Jonas Olson began to preach against the marriage institution as belonging solely to the Old

* Mikkelsen states that Swedish was not one of the subjects taught in the school, its study being limited to the meager instruction given in the home. In the early fifties Capt. Wickstrom is said to have plugged the keyhole so as not to be detected burning the midnight oil over his English books.

Testament period. It is a union, based entirely on the lust of the flesh, he held, therefore, those who already were married ought to abstain from connubial intercourse.

Before the promulgation of the celibacy edict, ten members, among whom the widow of Eric Jansson, had left the colony and joined the Shakers. When it became a law without being submitted to a general vote, many others deserted Bishop Hill to settle elsewhere. Discontent was general among those who remained; but should any one dare to give vent to his disapproval, he would be summarily dismissed from the colony, according to the fifth article of the by-laws. On this ground eleven persons were expelled on May 7, 1855. Of the remaining colonists a number formed a secret league under the leadership of Norberg with a view to oppose the new doctrine and, whenever the organization should become sufficiently strong, to depose the administration. Certain ones weakened and betrayed the movement, and a rigorous investigation followed. Many of the conspirators were induced by threats again to accept the views of the leaders. Only Norberg himself remained steadfast in his opposition. For the leaders Norberg had long been a thorn in the flesh, and by continued vigorous opposition to their measures, he was largely instrumental in undermining their power.

In the meantime, the temporal and spiritual leaders sought to conceal from outsiders both the doctrines of the sect and the conditions obtaining in the colony. At the annual meeting held in 1856, it was resolved on motion of Jonas Olson that all persons visiting relatives or friends at Bishop Hill should put up at the hotel. In case of overcrowding, lodging was to be provided by the trustees, no member being permitted to house an outsider except by their permission. In spite of all this secrecy, the true condition became known to the neighboring American population, many of whom spoke their mind to the leaders without reserve. One of the points of comment was the fact that the women whose husbands, willingly or by expulsion, left the colony, neither dared nor desired to accompany them, having been persuaded that to leave Bishop Hill, the only place where religion was being preached pure and unalloyed, were to commit a mortal sin. In order to clear themselves, Jonas Olson and Olof Johnson invited their American neighbors to appoint a committee to institute a thorough investigation. This was done, but the report of that committee was far from complimentary to the leaders. Besides substantiating the charges made, it laid bare the prevailing social conditions. Not even by these disclosures could the leaders be persuaded to change their policy. On the contrary, they renewed their efforts still further to alienate the wives from their banished husbands.

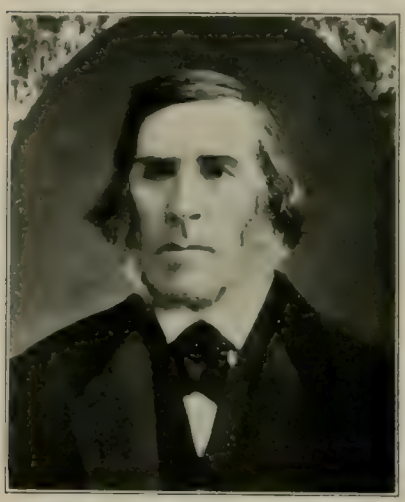


Bishop Hill Colony Store and Post Office and Other Colony Buildings

The drastic marriage interdict, which not only prohibited new marriages but forbade conjugal relations between man and wife, created much strife and caused irreparable damage to the reputation of the colony. Scandal followed upon scandal, heaping opprobrium on the Erik Janssonists and Bishop Hill. In sheer exasperation, a number of colonists determined to come out in open warfare against the leaders and their tenets. These persons were Sven Johan Nordin, Olof Molin, and Hans Nordström, headed by the intrepid Erik U. Norberg. Fearing that their antagonists might eventually bring about a dissolution of the colony, the leaders decided to call a public meeting at which the boldest of the disturbers were to be publicly excommunicated for their own punishment and as an example to other malcontents. This meeting was held October 31, 1856. In direct violation of the express stipulation in the by-laws, it was resolved, on motion of Olof Johnson, to give every woman and child a vote. Then a resolution was passed directing members desiring to marry to obtain permission from the board of trustees. That being granted, the contracting parties were to leave the colony for other parts before consummating their union. Persons entering wedlock without asking permission in due order were to be summarily expelled. Norberg and three others positively refused to submit, and in consequence were banished from the colony. Furthermore, all members were strictly forbidden to have any intercourse whatever with them. No one of those expelled had any part of his property returned to him, although they had toiled from eight to ten years for the common good.

The actions of the leaders were sharply attacked in the public press; a number of Americans took the part of Norberg and his friends and proposed to get justice for them by force if no other means availed. It was proposed to invade Bishop Hill with an armed posse and force the trustees at the point of the musket to grant restitution to the men they had banished. Norberg, however, objected to this method and proposed a settlement by legal process. His plan was to petition the legislature for the revocation of the charter of the Bishop Hill Colony and the appointment of a committee to distribute its property equitably among the colonists. Thereby the dissatisfied members would receive their just portion, and be left free to leave the colony, while those who so desired might remain loyal to the leaders, reorganize the corporation and change its laws to suit themselves. The Americans approved this as a wise and equitable solution of the mooted question. A petition was drawn up and circulated, receiving no less than 1,500 signatures, and was then submitted to the legislature. Norberg appeared in person and by the assistance of Senator Graham urged the granting of the petition. The Bishop Hill leaders were represented by Attorney Ram-

say and Senator Henderson. After three weeks the matter had been brought to the point where the fate of the Bishop Hill charter hung on the vote of a single senator. That senator had the matter postponed from time to time, demanding more time for consideration. Meanwhile Senator Graham began to waver. One day he inquired in guarded terms whether Norberg would withdraw his petition for a consideration of one thousand dollars. Suspecting foul play, Norberg refused the money



Jonas Kronberg



Jonas Erickson

Trustees of the Bishop Hill Colony

point-blank. A few days after, Graham stated that urgent private business made a trip home necessary, adding the assurance that he would soon return to push the matter through. The same day Graham left the capital, Olof Johnson arrived in response to a telegram, and the matter was hurriedly disposed of in the legislature to the entire satisfaction of the trustees. That bribery had been resorted to was patent to all.*

This victory, though a rather costly one, raised the courage and enterprising spirit of the leaders to a high pitch. They persuaded the colonists that, God being on their side, all opposition was doomed to failure. The one man who was not to be imposed upon by these fine phrases was Norberg. Assisted by the dissatisfied element, he strove energetically for a division of the property. This was a thing worth while, for in the year 1857 the property held in common doubtless aggregated over $700,000 in value. The individualization of the property, however, did not take place until great losses had been

* It is reported that the thing was done by judicious use of the sum of $8,000

sustained in the panic of 1857 and through unfortunate business ventures.

Olof Johnson's Business Ventures and the Downfall of the Colony

As has been shown, Jonas Olson was the dominant spirit in the council of seven, but at his side stood Olof Johnson, whose power and influence was ever on the increase, undoubtedly with the approval of his chief. These two men were each the complement of the other. Jonas Olson was shrewd, but conservative, and cautious in the extreme; Olof Johnson, on the other hand, bold and enterprising. The administrative work they divided between them in accordance with natural gifts and capabilities. All matters pertaining to worship and the administration of domestic affairs were in the hands of Jonas Olson, who laid particular stress on the development of the extensive agricultural pursuits, while Olof Johnson looked after the business affairs of the colony, his activities in this line dating back to about the time of the change in the administrative system.

The opportunities for speculative enterprise were very favorable. In 1854 the town of Galva was founded five miles from Bishop Hill. When the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railway was completed in 1855, giving Galva a railway station, the little town had a great boom, which Olof Johnson took advantage of. He started a number of business enterprises there, under the auspices of the Bishop Hill Colony, calculated to bring sure and abundant profit. In a short time he sat in his office at Galva and directed practically the whole economic machinery of the colony, all the more easily done since he controlled four of the seven votes in the board of trustees. At first he had the most pronounced success. The Crimean War had caused a sharp rise in the price of such commodities as wheat, corn, and other produce. But his reckless passion for speculation grew even more rapidly than his successful business enterprises. Overspeculation was epidemic at this time, and Johnson was soon drawn into a veritable whirl of diverse ventures, such as dealing in grain, lumber and general merchandise, meat packing, coal mining, banking, railroad building, etc. Together with several other persons he signed a contract to grade the roadbed for the Western Air Line Railroad for the sum of five million dollars, and pledged the Bishop Hill Colony to take stock for one million in the road. This was his most extensive undertaking. Ere long, Olof Johnson found himself in too deep water, and when the panic of 1857 came, the colony suffered loss upon loss, rapidly reducing the wealth which the colonists had produced in the sweat of their brow and

sweeping away the earnings of the successful business ventures. The period was marked by great financial disasters, and the Bishop Hill Colony was early drawn into the vortex, heavy losses compelling the colonists to submit to some sacrifice in order to raise money to stand off the creditors. Attempts made to start new enterprises invariably failed, owing to the prevailing hard times.

All too late, the colonists now began to realize whither the speculations of Olof Johnson had carried them, and they urged measures wherewith to control the actions of the board. That body obstinately refused to surrender a single prerogative. The only man on the board who was willing to admit the justice of the demand was Peter Johnson, who resigned as trustee in 1859 and was succeeded by Olof Stonebeng. The involved financial affairs added to the general discontent, and all things conspired to bring about the collapse of the whole system of religious and economic communism. Conditions grew still worse in the latter half of the year 1859, when it leaked out that the trustees had negotiated large loans to cover business losses. Questioned on this point at a public assemblage, the trustees laid the blame on Olof Johnson, who had sole charge of the finances. He finally admitted that he had borrowed $40,000 from one Mr. Studwell of New York, but protested that this was a private transaction of his, not in the least affecting the interests of the other colonists.*

Under the circumstances, the division of the property proposed by Norberg in 1857 naturally came to be favored by many. Evidently the only avenue of escape from complete ruin was to be found in amending the by-laws and repealing the communist pact. At the annual meeting held in January, 1860, a resolution to this effect was passed. The annual report rendered showed that the colony owned between 13,000 and 14,000 acres of land, partly improved, real estate in Galva, stocks and credits in various enterprises, and other resources, making a total of $846,270, while the liabilities amounted to $75,644 all told. This report aroused suspicion, and the colonists demanded that the books be audited. The trustees refused to show their accounts, and a storm of indignation was about to break, when Jonas Olson quieted the murmur of the people by declaring that their demand was just, whereupon he had an auditing committee appointed, with the proviso that the accounts of the lasts two years were to be submitted to them after a period of three weeks.

On the 7th day of February, new by-laws were adopted at a

* The official statement of colony debts in 1861 included in the "Answer of the Defendants" recognized as a corporate liability a mortgage loan of $40,000 obtained from Alexander Studwell in February, 1858. When in 1861 the loan was renewed this debt exceeded $40,000. This fact seems to account for a statement that at about that time Johnson borrowed such a sum from Studwell.

meeting, the legality of which the trustees denied. These by-laws deprived them of the right to buy and sell realty, make contracts or incur debts on the general account, except upon formal resolution of the colonists and with their express sanction. After much strife and discord, a resolution to divide the property was carried into effect on Feb. 14th, each of the 415 colonists receiving one share of stock in approximately two-thirds of the total resources. This portion of the property consisted of nearly 10,000 acres of land, valued at $400,000, buildings and realty in Bishop Hill, worth $123,208, and personal property, worth $69,585, making a total of $592,793. The undivided property was estimated at $248,861. The stockholders split up into two groups, the Olson and Johnson parties, the former representing 265, the latter 150 shares. But Olof Johnson managed to get control of the stock of Olson's friends as well as of his own, and soon directed the entire business.



Mrs. Mary (Malmgren) Olson,
First Child Born in Bishop Hill

The audit of the accounts of the corporation had a disheartening effect. Among the disclosures made was the fact that the trustees, during the three weeks' respite given them, had opened an entire new set of books, and that, according to the "corrected" accounts, the colony owed $42,759 over and above the reported indebtedness of $75,647, or a total of $118,403. The discoveries made shook the confidence of the colonists in their trustees and hastened the end. Olof Johnson was in a sorry plight. By a resolution of Nov. 13, 1860, he was deposed from the office of trustee for arrogating to himself the management and control of the colony's affairs, violating the by-laws and betraying his trust. By intrigue he managed to get himself reinstated as trustee on May 24, 1861, and proved himself almost indispensable to the board in the work of clearing up the muddle. In a short time he was again almost solely in charge of affairs. He was clothed with power of attorney to make the best bargains possible with the creditors of the corporation and served as attorney in fact until 1870.

Shortly after the division of property had taken place, the

remainder of the common estate, valued at $248,861, was placed in the hands of the trustees with instructions to use it to clear the colony of debt. They were given five years in which to clear up the affairs, with instructions to report annually. Part of the assets being found valueless the amount proved inadequate and a lot of cattle, broomcorn, etc., to the value of $52,762 was subsequently set aside to make up for the deficit.

In the spring of 1861 the Johnson party divided up their holdings so that each got his or her share of the property. To every person,





Major Eric Bergland Capt. Eric Johnson
Well-known Descendants of Bishop Hill Leaders

male or female, who had attained the age of thirty-five years, was given one full share, comprising 22 acres of farm land, one timber lot of nearly two acres, one town lot and an equitable share of all barns, horses, cattle, hogs, sheep and other domestic animals and of all farm implements and household furniture and utensils. All under this age received a share corresponding to the age of the individual, the smallest being 8 acres of land and other property in proportion. After another year's trial the Olson party, now split up into three groups, known respectively as the Olson, Stoneberg and Martin Johnson groups, took similar action, the shares received by their members being somewhat smaller. Thereby all economic community of interest had ceased, and each colonist could dispose of his property as he saw fit. This new order of things for a time made Bishop Hill flourish

as never before. Handsome residences and other buildings sprang up in rapid succession, and the colonists seemed hopeful and confident of the future. If not now relieved of the debt, for the payment of which they had already made so great sacrifices, they firmly hoped to be rid of the burden inside of five years. But their hopes were to be rudely shattered. At the end of the period, the trustees came in with a request for an additional $100,000 to satisfy the creditors. An assessment was levied. The majority being prosperous, they decided to pay rather than go to law, but about half refused or neglected to pay. The sum of $54,858, or $56,163, was raised and turned over to the trustees. Those who refused to pay their assessments held the former appropriation ample. That, however, had been decreased about $100,000 by assets found worthless, making the total appropriation for debt-paying purposes, inclusive of the receipts from the last levy, about $260,000.

The years passed by; the people toiled on as before, and their labors were blessed with rich returns. The trustees also labored on in a way, but as no reports were forthcoming, the people were left in the dark as to what progress they made in paying off the debt. Finally, when in 1868 the trustees again requested a large sum of money —$123,835—the sorely tried patience of the people gave out. At a public meeting on May 11th, the malcontents appointed a committee, composed of Norberg and five others, to bring the trustees to an accounting, and on July 27th, legal proceedings were instituted. A special master in chancery was appointed who, after due examination of the books, certified that the trustees since 1860 had received money and property to the value of $249,763 and paid out on account of the colony $140,144, the sum of $109,619 remaining to be accounted for.

The Bishop Hill Colony Case

In this famous lawsuit, renowned among the legal fraternity of Illinois as the "Colony Case," there were many facts brought out, favorable to the defendants, which are usually ignored by writers who have dealt with the history of Bishop Hill. While the trustees as a body cannot be exonerated from blame for the sins of commission and omission charged to their executive head, Olof Johnson, printer's ink has tended to make them out rather blacker than they deserve. It is only common fairness to assume that the truth in this case was not all on one side.

When the Erik Jansson family ceased to dominate the colony's affairs, it naturally went over to the opposition, and thus we find Erik Jansson's son making common cause with Norberg, his father's old antagonist, against those in control. The suit against the trustees

was filed by Erik U. Norberg, Eric Johnson, Olof Olson, Andrew Norberg, Lars Lindbeck and Andrew Johnson, complainants, acting for themselves and in behalf of other persons dissatisfied with the manner in which the trustees were winding up the common affairs. Being a party to the suit and one who thereby sought redress for old grievances, Eric Johnson was not free from bias, and his published account of the case, though quite generally accepted without question, cannot be considered impartial.

The bill of complaint charged the trustees with malfeasance on a large number of counts, such as, exercising undue and improper influence over the legislature in securing the passage of the charter and coercing the colonists into joining the corporation; illegal construction of the charter and by-laws; diverting colony property to their own use; violating the revised by-laws; sinister purposes in subdividing the property; failure to make the required reports; collusion in fraudulent lawsuits to waive just defense, procure judgment and decree against the colony and deprive it of money and property under color of judicial proceedings; gross neglect of duty; misuse, waste and unlawful disposition of corporate funds; concealment of the true state of the colony's pecuniary affairs; unlawful use of the corporate funds for private speculation; mortgaging property without good and sufficient consideration—on all of which and other grounds the complainants asked for a writ enjoining the trustees from further exercise of their authority.

In answer, the trustees urged a formidable array of facts, allegations and denials, many of them well-grounded. Without this admission, the progress of the case can hardly be understood. In fairness to the memory of those of the trustees who did act in good faith and whose principal fault was lack of vigilance, the chief points in their defense, touching the various charges of maladministration, are here outlined. As to the diversion of real estate to private uses, reference was had to the county records to show that all colony lands, formerly vested in individuals, had been duly conveyed to the colony upon its incorporation, no real estate being illegally retained by or conveyed to any trustee individually for his private use and enjoyment prior to or after the general subdivision; and it does not appear from available accounts that this specific charge was substantiated.

The individualization of the property was stated to have been planned and carried out on a just and fair basis, without any other motive than a desire to meet the wishes and subserve the interests of all concerned, the express condition being that the corporation should not be dissolved until after the payment of all corporate debts. The debt was understood at the time to be $100,000 and upward, and the individuals were to remain charged with the lien of this debt, the deeds

to their respective pieces of land not to be given until they had paid their proportionate share of the same.

After the sub-division had been made, and certain property had been exempted to apply on the payment of the debt, part of this property, to the value of $40,000 or thereabouts, was destroyed by fire in September, 1861, the available capital being thereby reduced so much, that, too, at a time of pressing want to meet corporate obligations and to equip the colonists for individual farming the next year.

From the year 1861 on the colonists cultivated their respective tracts, enjoying the issues and profits therefrom. As they needed all the fruits of their labors, the corporation determined to procure extensions from the creditors until the members should be better able to contribute their share toward the payment of the debt. In August, 1865, the trustees levied an assessment of $200 per share, and deeds were made out and placed in escrow, to be delivered to the shareholders upon completing payment of the assessment. The trustees stated that if those assessments had been promptly met, it would have enabled them to avoid costs, save the sacrifice of property and nearly or quite discharge the colony debt. But only a part of the required amount was realized, namely the sum of $54,858, which was disbursed by Olof Johnson, as attorney in fact, in part payment of debt.

The defendants, further answering, stated that since the chartering of the colony, it had been engaged in many lawsuits and was especially so involved after proceedings were inaugurated for a sub-division of the property; creditors then became restive and outsiders sought by legal strategy to take advantage of the corporation and speculate upon its misfortune. The rights of the colonists, they averred, had been defended to the utmost, and against the charge of collusive and fraudulent lawsuits, defaults, combinations to waive just defense and other legal strategies, entailing losses to the colony, they entered positive denial. A schedule of some 120 lawsuits was given, not including many suits before justices of the peace and other inferior courts, nor all of the cases brought before courts in Chicago—and it is a safe inference that these suits cost the corporation a large amount of money.

The loans negotiated are stated to have been solely for the benefit of the colony, in time of pressing need; the mortgages in every instance having been given for good and sufficient consideration, and the money thus secured turned into the common treasury to be disbursed for the common good, wherefore, the trustees averred, to attempt to avoid these just obligations, as suggested by the complainants, would be bald repudiation and dishonesty.

In March, 1868, the trustees, desiring to complete the individualiza-

tion, pay all obligations and dissolve the corporation, levied a new assessment, aggregating $123,835, which sum, together with remaining assets, was thought adequate for the payment in full of the colony debt, now amounting to about $158,000. But the majority of the members were unable to pay their pro rata share without hardship. The trustees therefore made an arrangement with Elias Greenebaum of Chicago whereby he was to loan them the respective amounts, on mortgage security, giving such terms as to prevent sacrifice of property. Had all availed themselves of this arrangement, which they did not, the debt might have been fully liquidated, the trustees asserted, and each member would have obtained clear title to his or her allotment of property.

The trustees accounted for the size of the debt of 1868 in the following manner: To the amount due in 1861, estimated at $112,000, should be added interest at 10%, commissions, costs incurred in litigation, sums paid in compromise, in cases where legal advantage had been obtained over the colony, payment of taxes, and other legitimate causes of increase of corporate debts; it would then be readily seen why the debt had become the debt of 1868, although $54,858 had been paid thereon. Furthermore, a claim of about $60,000 against the Western Air Line Railroad, counted as an asset in 1860 and 1865, had been found worthless, except as to the sum of $6,500, which had been received in settlement. It was further estimated that undivided property remaining unsold would bring at most $20,000.

As to contracting, banking and other enterprises, into which the trustees engaged on the initiative of Olof Johnson, they offered a plausible defense of their acts. In 1854 they contracted for the grading of part of the roadbed of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy and earned $37,000 under that contract. Two years later the colony was awarded a contract to grade the projected Western Air Line Railroad, and a large sum of money ($60,000) had been earned, when the railway company failed as a result of the panic. As the failure could not be foreseen at the time when the contract was made and labor thereon performed, and as the claim was watched for some ten years prior to its settlement for $6,500, the trustees disclaimed responsibility for the loss sustained. This contract, which involved no less than five million dollars, and promised to yield the colony a very handsome profit, was by no means a bad speculation, as has been freely admitted even by Eric Johnson himself.*

In 1856-1858 Olof Johnson represented the colony in a copartnership with Samuel Remington, in a bank at Galva, known as the Nebraska Western Exchange Bank, through the failure of which as a

* See "Svenskarne i Illinois," page 66

result of the panic the colony incurred losses. The trustees, while admitting this, declared that the undertaking had been reported to the members of the colony and approved by them, adding that a settlement was had in 1860 with Olof Johnson, who was then discharged from liability for the failure.

While on many points the defense of their acts offered by the trustees seems valid, the manner of handling the accounts of the colony by them does not appear equally defensible. In 1849 Olof Johnson had raised in Sweden about $6,000 for the colony. In the schedule of debt submitted in 1868, we find this item, "Notes and interest due parties in Sweden for money loaned, etc., $12,000." This was either a part of the same item or another loan, which through neglect had been allowed to accumulate, notwithstanding intervening years of prosperity, one of which alone showed an increase of $238,334 in the value of personal property, according to the trustees' report. The Studwell loan of $40,000 in 1858, which three years later represented a liability of $66,570, is another case in point, though the prevailing financial stringency no less than lack of vigilance may account for this increase. The summary of accounts submitted by the trustees in 1868, showing receipts of $171,964 and disbursements of $195,837, was not convincing, and Olof Johnson's claim for reimbursement in the sum of $23,873 for money paid out in excess of receipts was naturally viewed with suspicion.

From the answer of the defendants we gather, in conclusion, that the complainants were not all legal members of the corporation, and that they had in almost every instance failed to assist in paying off corporate obligations, while the trustees, with a single exception, paid both assessments, amounting in the case of Jonas Olson to as much as $3,120. The revised by-laws were, the trustees declared, illegally passed and therefore could not be binding upon their acts, and they were in fact never so held by them.

After a long and aggravating legal contest stretching over five years, the case was left to the judge, who delayed his decision for a like period. Finally in 1879 some sort of settlement of the case was effected. The trustees were not held accountable for the $109,619; Olof Johnson's claims of $23,873 and salary for the years he had acted as attorney in fact were disallowed; all other claims against the corporation were held valid and ordered paid, in addition to which $57,782 in new obligations, including a contingent fund of $16,000 and costs on both sides, were saddled on the colonists. This "so-called decree," like others caustically referred to in like terms by the Supreme Court at a later occasion, was the result of a compromise between the attorneys in the case and was doubtless signed by the

judge merely as a matter of form. Under the decree, entered April 25 and July 28, 1879, many tracts of land were sold by the special master in chancery (William H. Gest), the owners of which were not parties to the suit. The most of the lands were not redeemed from the sale, and deeds were made out to the purchasers, who had been notified at the sale that possession would not be voluntarily yielded by the owners. Petitions were filed by the grantees in some of the deeds for writs of assistance to put them in possession of the lands, among them the lands of John Root, a son of the man who killed Erik Jansson, now a prominent attorney. This proved the test case, on the outcome of which hung the fate of the entire colony case. Root's land had been sold for $2,868.50 and was purchased for the benefit of Charles C. Bonney, the attorney who prosecuted the suit against the trustees. The judge who tried the case granted a writ of assistance directing the sheriff of Henry county to put the petitioner, Lyman M. Payne, acting for Bonney, in possession of the land. Root appealed the case to the Appellate Court, where the judgment of the lower court was reversed. Payne appealed his case to the Supreme Court, where the judgment of the Appellate Court was affirmed. The opinion of the Supreme Court, rendered May 12, 1887, by Mr. Justice Mulkey, reads in part as follows:

"Numerous orders and so-called decrees were, from time to time, entered in the cause, even a cursory examination of which, we think, fully justifies the claim of appellant that it is 'a case sui generis.' Under the compendious title of The Bishop Hill Colony Case, after the manner of Dickens' celebrated case of Jarndyce and Jarndyce, it has been 'dragging its slow length along' for a period of over eighteen years, and, as far as we are able to perceive, those who have been chiefly benefited by it are the immediate parties to the suit, their counsel and the officers of the court—notably the master in chancery, who has received some $9,000 out of the fund, as fees in the case... The conclusion sought to be drawn from the circumstances pointed out as sustaining the claim (against Root) find no sanction in law and just as little in reason or logic. Viewed from a legal aspect, or, indeed, from any other aspect, we have seldom, if ever, seen a case so entirely destitute of merit."

The law governing the remaining cases being thus determined, the cases were dismissed and never resurrected. The original Bishop Hill case then remained, deserted by those who brought it and by their attorney. When the clerk of the Circuit Court of Henry county was making up the docket for the February term, 1888, a member of the bar of the county suggested to him that the case be omitted from the docket,

which was done, and thus the last remnant of the Bishop Hill Colony was given a quiet burial.

To estimate the losses to the colonists incurred by Olof Johnson's



Old Settlers Monument at Bishop Hill, Erected in 1896, in Memory of the Founders of the Colony

administration and through the resultant litigation is not possible, in the absence of reliable figures. Up to and including the year 1879 there seems to have been an expenditure in money and property, to pay debt, aggregating $300,000, and a loss of more than $100,000 in bad accounts,

worthless notes and other doubtful assets.* What remained of the old corporate debt was paid with the proceeds from the subsequent land sales. After the death of Olof Johnson in 1870, the affairs were managed by Jonas Olson, with the assistance of Swanson and Jacobson. Stoneberg and Kronberg taking little part.

The Final Fate of Erik Janssonism

The decisive steps in the dissolution of the colony having been taken in the years 1860 to 1862, many of the Erik Janssonists left Bishop Hill and settled elsewhere. Jonas Olson sought to form a congregation that would remain true to the doctrines of Erik Jansson, but failed in the attempt, the colonists already having been divided in the matter of creed. In 1867 the Seventh Day Adventists made a successful effort at proselyting among them, establishing a church in 1870 with 150 members, among whom was Jonas Olson. Shortly afterwards, the congregation was divided on certain doctrinal points, the one faction being headed by Jonas Olson and Martin Johnson, the other by John Hellsen, Peter Wexell and others. The rupture was not permanent and the members have worshiped together for many years. Not a few of the former colonists have gone over to Methodism. A Methodist Church was organized as early as 1864 with fifteen members, which number rapidly increased. Olof Stoneberg and Anders Berglund became the local preachers of this flock. A small number accepted Swedenborgianism; beyond that the colonists largely preferred to remain outside of all denominational pales.

Sept. 23—24, 1896, the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of Bishop Hill was commemorated. Over two thousand people were in attendance, among whom were no less than ninety-nine of the incorporators of 1853. Of the trustees two were still living, Jonas Olson, aged ninety-four, and Swan Swanson.

A granite monument had been erected bearing this inscription:

1846
Dedicated to the Memory of the Hardy Pioneers
who, in order to secure
RELIGIOUS LIBERTY,
left Sweden, their native land, with all the endearments
of home and kindred, and founded
BISHOP HILL COLONY,
on the uninhabited prairies of
ILLINOIS
Erected by surviving members and descendants
on the 50th Anniversary, September twenty-third
1896

* A statement in "Svenskarne i Illinois," p. 51, that by 1879 it had cost the colonists $672,919.61 to pay their debt of $118,106.33 is clearly erroneous, the enormous total having been reached by duplicating items aggregating a quarter of a million.



The Sixtieth Anniversary Celebration in 1906, Held in the Village Park, Bishop Hill

At the present time Bishop Hill is a small village with a population somewhat in excess of three hundred. The large buildings erected at the time of its greatest prosperity are still occupied, though somewhat dilapidated. But few of the early colonists now remain alive. Berglund, Norberg, Hedin, Stoneberg, Olof Johnson, and Jonas Olson, all these leaders have passed away and the second generation sprung from them and their contemporaries is already growing old. Sophia Jansson, the widow of the prophet, died in the Henry County infirmary in 1888; Erik Jansson's son, Captain Eric Johnson, is now living in California, and the daughter, who was married to Captain A. G. Warner, a veteran of the Civil War, and later became Mrs. Rutherford, also survives.

In the evening of his life Jonas Olson, although confined to his invalid's chair by decrepitude, continued to preach. His eyes were dim, and it was better so, for his flock had grown pitifully small and looked grotesquely out of place in so capacious a house of worship as the old colony church. In 1871 he lost his first wife, whose maiden name was Katrina Wexell. The following year, at the age of seventy, he obtained a second helpmeet in Miss Katrina Johnson, a girl of twenty-eight. He passed away at his home in Bishop Hill on Nov. 18, 1898, at the ripe age of ninety-six years.

Olof Johnson, born in Söderala parish, Helsingland, June 30, 1820, died at Galva, July 18, 1870, in the midst of difficulties attending the famous lawsuit. He left an insolvent estate, and but for his life insurance, it is claimed, it would have fared hard with his family.

Andrew Berglund, born in Alfta parish, Helsingland, Jan. 10, 1814, departed this life at Bishop Hill, Aug. 17, 1896. In 1867 he joined the newly organized Swedish Methodist Church at Bishop Hill, which he served as local preacher until his death. His son, Major Eric Bergland, U. S. A., retired, of Baltimore, Md., is one of several descendants of the original colonists, who have attained eminence.

Olof Stoneberg, elected colony trustee in 1859 to succeed Peter Johnson, joined the local Methodist church in 1868 and became local preacher and an eminent member of the denomination. At his death, which occurred Jan. 8, 1892, he left a generous bequest to the Swedish M. E. Theological Seminary at Evanston, Ill., on whose board of directors he had served for many years. Stoneberg was a native of Helsingland, born in Forssa parish on Feb. 17, 1818.

Swan Swanson, the last surviving trustee of the colony, died in Bishop Hill Mar. 24, 1907. He was born May 25, 1825, in Söderala, Helsingland. Swanson served as colony bookkeeper and storekeeper prior to 1860 and subsequently with Jacob Jacobson became joint owner of the store. He was for many years postmaster of the village.

Eric Ulric Norberg, whose conspicuous connection with the Bishop Hill Colony has been shown in the preceding pages, was born June 22, 1813, at Ullervad, Vestergötland, Sweden, and graduated from the college at Skara at the age of eighteen, after which he became private secretary to the provincial governor, serving until the age of twenty-



Eric U. Norberg in Old Age

three, when he was appointed "länsman" for Skaraborg and one other "län." This office he held until 1842, when with his sister he emigrated to America, settling first in Michigan, then moved to Wisconsin and afterwards to Minnesota. This region at that time was scarcely inhabited by any white people, and he lived near the Indians and had very friendly relations with them. In 1847 he joined the colonists at Bishop Hill, where he married and lived in the colony off and on for about ten years, then left and came to Chicago, where he lived for some two years, but returned about the time that the colony broke up and the division of property took place. Part of the time he was with the colony, he was secretary and kept the records of the meetings of the corporation. He also had charge of the colony warehouse at Galva. Prior to that time he also had charge of the warehouse at Henry on

the Illinois River, where the colonists did a large portion of their shipping. In 1863 he moved with his family on a farm near Toulon, where he lived for a number of years until he moved to Galva, with his daughter, Mrs. Carrie N. Jones, where he died at the age of nearly 86 years. A son of Eric Norberg is Gustaf Norberg, an attorney, of Holdrege, Neb.



CHAPTER V.

Other Early Settlements

Character and Condition of Settlers

IN the latter forties and the early fifties, when Swedish immigration to the West showed a marked increase, these immigrants either settled in communities already established by Americans from the East or founded new settlements of their own. All who were able to do so purchased a piece of land and some live stock. The others had to hire out for work until they had saved up enough money to buy land. Simple dwellings, mostly log cabins, were built. One of the first cares of the immigrants was to organize a congregation and build a church edifice in which to worship God in the manner of their fathers. After having provided for these most urgent temporal and spiritual wants, they began to acquaint themselves more thoroughly with the new country and to prepare themselves for the proper exercise of the rights and duties of citizenship.

These settlements flourished rapidly, their progress largely due to the industry and hardiness of the settlers. The fertile prairie soil, under careful cultivation, yielded rich harvests; large herds of cattle soon grazed on the green bottoms; the rude little loghouses gradually gave way to larger and more commodious dwellings; the small, struggling congregations grew to be a great factor in the mental culture of the settlers; the settlements grew steadily more extensive and populous, due partly to their own enterprise, partly to continued immigration. In many of these settlements agriculture, combined with the raising of live stock, was then, and continues to be, the principal occupation, while in others industrial plants were established which have since developed so as to rank with the largest of their class.

At that time the American settlers in Illinois, composed largely of New England yankees, had purchased tracts of land, not so much from a desire to become farmers as from a penchant for speculation. When Swedes in any considerable numbers flocked to a certain spot, these original settlers usually retreated, leaving the newcomers as lords of all they surveyed. Hence, certain settlements, almost from the outset, became exclusively populated by Swedes, and have retained

that character. In others there was a mixture of Americans and Swedes, the two nationalities getting on well together and making united efforts for the development of their communities. In still others the Americans were numerically stronger, yet the Swedes pushed to the front in various lines, thus forming an important factor in the community.

Although it is not our present purpose to write the local history of the Swedish settlements in Illinois, yet, for the sake of obtaining a connected story and a survey of the historical field, brief sketches of the rise and development of the principal early settlements, founded prior to the outbreak of the Civil War, are here given, commencing with Andover, in Henry county, next to Bishop Hill the oldest Swedish settlement in the state.

ANDOVER, HENRY COUNTY

The first white settler in Andover was a Dr. Barker, who arrived May 6, 1835, remaining there only a short time. In June of the same year three other Americans, viz., Rev. Pillsbury, Mr. Slaughter and Mr. Pike, came there for the purpose of looking up a site for a colony that was being organized in New York. They selected an extensive tract, part of which was platted as a town site. Streets, alleys and a public square were laid out, and the place was named Andover, after the Massachusetts city where the renowned Congregational theological seminary is located. The land company in New York evidently worked with the pious intention of building up a Christian community, and making money incidentally, but the plan was not realized as originally framed, for in the place of a strong colony of American Puritans there sprang up a populous settlement of Swedish Lutherans.

One of the first buildings erected in the place was a flour mill. During the first few years the population was small, and the settlers experienced all the hardships of pioneering. The nearest post office was at Knoxville, thirty odd miles distant. The letter postage at that time was 25 cents.

The first Swede in Andover and Henry county at large was Sven Nilsson, a sailor, who arrived as early as 1840. The next arrival of Swedish descent was Miss Johanna Sofia Lundqvist, born Jan. 15, 1824, at the paper mill Perioden, near Jönköping, her parents being J. E. Lundqvist, a paper manufacturer, and his wife Brita Maria, née Flodén. The factory having been destroyed by fire, Lundqvist in 1842 moved with his wife and four children to Helsingland, where he purchased the Lund paper mill in Forssa parish. Together with many others, Lundqvist and his wife were drawn into the religious movement started by Erik Jansson. Mrs. Lundqvist appears to have been a particularly

zealous member of the sect, judging from the fact that she was one of the fifteen persons who on Dec. 7, 1844, made a bonfire of Lutheran books, near Stenbo, in Forssa parish. For this alleged sacrilege these persons were tried at Forssa Feb. 24, 1845, and fined each 16 crowns, 32 shillings banco. The verdict no doubt had something to do with Lundqvist's determination to emigrate to America with his family in company with Erik Jansson's followers. He sold the paper mill and with wife and three children, including the oldest daughter, joined a company of Erik Janssonists who emigrated in 1846. The youngest daughter, Mathilda Gustafva, remained in Sweden to clear up the estate.

While the parents settled at Bishop Hill, the oldest daughter early in 1847 hired out as a domestic in the family of a Mr. Townsend in Andover. She was the first Swedish woman to live in Andover. The year of her arrival she formed the acquaintance of P. W. Wirström, a Swedish sea captain, whom she married. This was the first Swedish family in Andover. Captain Wirström, born at Waxholm in 1816, seems to have emigrated at an early date. The year of his arrival is not known, but it is known to a certainty that he was here as early as 1846, when he sailed on the Great Lakes. In the fall of that year he learned that a company of his fellow countrymen had arrived at Buffalo, N. Y. Going there, he found that the emigrants were Erik Janssonists headed by Nils Hedin. At their request he accompanied them as interpreter on their journey to Bishop Hill. After their arrival he became almost indispensable in the capacity of physician, possessing, as he did, a smattering of medical learning. He remained there till July, 1847, when he removed to Andover.

After his marriage to Johanna Sofia Lundqvist, they made their home in a log cabin in Andover until the fall of the same year, when they removed to New Orleans, where Captain Wirström hired out as a slave driver. The following spring the couple returned to Andover, but went back to New Orleans in the fall, Wirström returning to his former occupation there. One day, in weighing up the cotton on the plantation where he was employed, it was discovered that the day's harvest was too small, and Wirström got orders to urge the slaves to still greater exertions. This he refused to do, and, having already had enough of the slave driver's job, he once more returned to Andover in 1849. The same summer the cholera epidemic ravaged Andover as well as Bishop Hill, and Lundqvist's two sons were among its victims.

This was also the year of the great California gold fever. Among those who went west to seek their fortune in the newly discovered gold fields were Captain Wirström and his young wife. In company with a number of others from Andover, they set out April 6, 1850, on their

long journey across the prairie wilderness to the golden land. They traveled mostly on foot, and many were their sufferings en route. For Mrs. Wirström, who had to do the cooking for eight men in the company, the journey was especially hard and toilsome. She stood it manfully, however, and late in August all arrived safe and sound at Beadville's Bear. A few weeks later, the Wirströms bought a hotel. Adversities now came in rapid succession. Their only child died, and an attack of consumption compelled Captain Wirström to return to Illinois in 1854. He died Feb. 25, 1855, at Bishop Hill. Then Mrs. Wirström sold the hotel in California for $8,000 and removed to Bishop Hill.

Nov. 4, 1856, Mrs. Wirström was wedded to an American by the name of M. B. Ogden, of Galva, and they settled on a farm which she purchased at Victoria, living there for more than twenty years. In 1881 they removed to Riverside, California, where she resided until her death, June 10, 1904.

The younger sister, who had been left behind when the Lundqvist family emigrated, came over in 1850, was married to one J. W. Florine and moved to Andover in 1855 with her husband, who became the first physician, druggist and photographer of that place. Florine served as second lieutenant in Company H, 43rd Illinois Volunteers in the early part of the Civil War, but asked for his discharge Feb. 4, 1862, and died the same year. His wife, born at Nyköping in 1829, is still living.

Returning to the early settlers of Andover, we meet here the aforementioned Peter Kassel, who emigrated from Kisa, Östergötland, to Iowa in 1845, and corresponded with friends in the old country with the result that another company emigrated in 1847 from the same part of Sweden. They arrived in New York with the fixed intention of going to New Sweden, Iowa, but Rev. O. G. Hedström succeeded in persuading them to go by way of Victoria, Illinois, where his brother Jonas Hedström was located, and investigate conditions in that locality. Jonas Hedström referred them to Andover, where they went to live. In the company were N. J. Johnson with wife and an adopted daughter, all from Järeda, Smaland, and Anders Johansson with wife and three children, from Linneberga in the same province. Johnson and his family obtained temporary lodging in the home of Rev. Pillsbury, later on moving into a loghouse that stood on the present site of the Andover orphanage.

At the same time, or possibly somewhat later, came a family by the name of Friberg, one Nils Nilsson, a family named Hurtig, and in 1848 John A. Larson from Oppeby, Östergötland, who was to play a prominent part in the public affairs of Andover and vicinity.

N. J. Johnson and Nils Nilsson were the first Swedish landowners in Andover. As early as 1848, they each purchased ten acres of land at $1.25 per acre. Johnson's rude hut, the first Swedish home in the settlement, stood as a landmark for many years and may have been preserved to this day.

Anders Johansson died in 1849, but his widow was married again, to Samuel Johnson of Orion. In her younger days she was a strong and sturdy woman, in physical prowess the match of any man. N. J. Johnson and his wife were still living in the year 1880, and Nils Nilsson in the latter part of the eighties. Friberg removed to Colfax, Iowa; Hurtig, who lived south of "Deacon Buck's place," died in 1849, his wife surviving him by many years. In 1880 she was residing in Polk county, Neb., where she had moved in 1875. John A. Larson did not long remain at Andover, but went to Galesburg and there learned the wagonmaker's trade. In 1850 he went to California in search of gold, of which he found little or none, whereupon he returned in 1851, taking up his former trade in Galesburg two years later, and shortly afterwards removing to Andover, where he built a carriage shop of his own and was engaged in that trade for fifteen years. During that time he purchased the homestead of Rev. Pillsbury, which he made his home. Having early acquired a knowledge of the English language, he was of great assistance to his countrymen in legal or business matters and thus earned their lasting gratitude. In time he became a large landowner. In 1880 he owned no less than 587 acres of fertile land. His wife, who died in 1879 after a union lasting twenty-six years, bore him eight children. This honored and distinguished pioneer passed away at Andover in April, 1903.

The little Swedish settlement was reinforced in 1848 by two unmarried men, Gabriel Johnson and Gustaf Johnson, and five families, viz., Samuel Johnson from Södra Vi, Småland, with wife and three sons; Halland Elm from Gammalskil, Östergötland, with wife, one son and two daughters; Erik Peter Andersson from Kisa, Östergötland, with wife, two sons and three daughters; Samuel Samuelsson, also from Kisa, with wife and four children, and Måns Johnsson from the same place, with wife and one son.

These five families were part of a party of 75 emigrants who left Sweden in 1846, embarking at Göteborg on the sailing vessel "Virginia," Captain Johnson, for New York. The entire company were bound for New Sweden, Iowa, but their plans were frustrated. In Albany, N. Y., the modest sum set aside for their traveling expenses was stolen, and all the way to Buffalo, N. Y., the emigrants had to subsist on wild plums growing on the banks of the canal, and anything edible that they could pick up. Reaching Buffalo, they were unable

to proceed farther, but remained in that city for two years in order to earn the money needed for reaching their final destination. In the meantime, friends and kindred at Andover had learned of their whereabouts and their sorry predicament, and sent letters urging them to come to their settlement. The five families just enumerated obeyed the call. One of the party, Mans Johnsson, had died during their stay in Buffalo.

The balance of the party proceeded to Sugar Grove, Warren county, Pa., and became the pioneer Swedish settlers there and in the vicinity of Jamestown, N. Y. The aforementioned Samuel Johnson, who eventually settled at Orion, Henry county, died in 1887. Erik Peter Andersson passed away in 1854 and his wife in the latter seventies. Samuel Samuelsson and his wife removed to Galesburg, Ill.

In 1849 Andover received a substantial addition to its population. That summer a party arrived from Östergötland and northern Smaland, originally consisting of 300 persons who had left Göteborg in the spring on the sailing vessel "Charles Tottie," Captain Bäckman. After seven weeks and four days they arrived in New York, whence they were carried by three canalboats to Buffalo. On board one of the boats cholera broke out. At Buffalo they took passage on a steamer for Chicago. There they met Captain Wirström, who escorted them to Andover, their final destination. The trip was made by canal from Chicago to Peru, from which point the emigrants and their effects were carried across the country in nine wagon loads at $18 per load, arriving at Andover July 31st. Their original intention also had been to look up Peter Kassel at New Sweden, Ia., but the cholera epidemic and other diseases in the party cut short their trip and compelled them to stop at Andover and neighboring points. Among the members of the party were the following: Nils Magnus Kihlberg and family, from Kisa, who settled at Swedona, where Kihlberg was still living in 1890; the brothers Carl Johan Samuelsson and Johannes Samuelsson from Vestra Eneby, Östergötland, who with their families settled at Hickory Grove, Lynn township, south of Andover township. When the railroad was built through that country a station was located at Hickory Grove and named Ophiem, after Johannes Samuelsson's old home, Opphem in Tjärstad parish, Östergötland. The two brothers had great success in farming and accumulated considerable wealth. In 1880 their combined estates were valued at $130,000. Both were earnest churchmen, contributing liberally to churches, schools and benevolent institutions. Johannes Samuelsson died June 11, 1887, at the age of 72, the younger brother Apr. 23, 1900, nearly 78 years old. He bequeathed to Augustana College and Theological Seminary a sum amounting to nearly $15,000. The same year, on August 20th, his wife Carolina, née Persson,

whom he had married in Sweden, followed him in death and was buried at his side in the Swedish cemetery at Ophiem.

The same year that the last named party of immigrants came to Andover, there arrived also the following: Nils P. Petersson and wife, from Lönneberga, Smaland; Anders Peter Larsson; A. P. Petersson; Pehr Svensson from Djursdala, Smaland, with his wife, son and daughter. The daughter died of cholera at Princeton, while en route to Andover, and shortly afterward the mother fell a victim to the same disease. The first wheeled vehicle made in Henry county was constructed by Svensson. It was an extremely primitive affair, drawn by a yoke of oxen. In it Svensson and his son were often seen riding to the little church of a Sunday morning.

Still another party of immigrants from Sweden arrived in Andover in 1849. This consisted of 140 persons from the provinces of Gestrikland and Helsingland, headed by Rev. L. P. Esbjörn, a man destined to play a prominent part in the history of the Swedes in America. The party left Gefle on board the sailing vessel "Cobden" June 29, 1849, and arrived in Andover in the late summer. The majority of these people were soon induced by Rev. Jonas Hedström to go to Victoria.

Among those in Esbjörn's party who remained in Andover were, Jonas Andersson, with wife and three children; Matts Ersson and Olof Nordin with families, all from Hille. Jonas Andersson and Matts Ersson were members of the party of goldseekers that left Andover for California, returning in 1851, short on gold but long on experience. Andersson later engaged in the merchandise business in partnership with G. E. Peterson, but was forced into liquidation by the panic of 1857. Two years later he removed to Colorado with his sons, his wife and daughter remaining in Andover. Olof Nordin and his family also left shortly afterward and their fate is not known. Matts Ersson lived in Andover until 1901 and died June 3, 1905, at the Bethany Home in Chicago, an old folks' home supported by the Swedish Methodists, where he spent the last four years of his life. Among the new arrivals from Sweden in 1849, not members of the Esbjörn party, were, S. P. Strid, an old soldier from Östergötland, and Åke Olsson from Ofvansjö, Gestrikland, the last-named having accompanied a party of Erik Janssonists to America in 1846, but separated from them in New York, remaining three years in the state of New York before proceeding farther west.

Disease was prevalent in many forms, the worst of which was the cholera. That dreaded epidemic made annual visitations from 1849 to 1854, making great inroads on the population. As an example of its ravages may be mentioned that in 1849 one John Elm worked with two different harvesting gangs of sixteen men each, and of the thirty-

two all but Elm and two others were stricken down and died of the pest.

To obtain profitable employment at this time was no easy matter. A day's wages varied from 35 cents to 50 cents, and in many instances it had to be taken out in the form of pork and other provisions, cattle or anything of value. On the other hand, live stock and merchandise were very cheap. A good cow could be bought for $8, and a first class working horse for $40. The price of pork was 1½ cents, and potatoes were to be had for the trouble of digging them. This was the golden age of topers, whisky selling at 12½ to 15 cents per gallon. These prices ruled until 1853, when railway building began in western Illinois. This brought more money into circulation, increased the demand for labor, and raised the price of agricultural products. Economic conditions thus kept improving up to 1857, when the panic struck the Andover settlement as it did the country at large.

Better times came about 1862 when the Civil War put large amounts of money into circulation and farm products began to command enormous prices. At this juncture, many of the Andover Swedes became independent farmers. They bought farms, often on time, but generally the returns from the first year's crops would suffice to clear them of debt. The more provident ones continued similar purchases until they became the owners of many hundreds of acres. The less enterprising ones were contented with farms of ten to eighty acres. The soil was carefully tilled; even the small farmers made more than a living off their acres and had no need of going farther west in search of larger farms. Thus Andover early became a well-to-do Swedish-American community, whose prosperity has been on the increase ever since.

What has been said of the prosperity of the farmers applies in like measure to the artisan and the tradesman. By industry and thrift they also have acquired economic independence. The first Swede who obtained a deed to a building lot in the village—the place never reached the dignity of a city—was C. Larsson, the paper being dated Dec. 15, 1849. The first Swedish mechanic was the aforesaid John A. Larson, who in 1853 built a blacksmith and wagon shop. The first Swedish merchants were Jonas Andersson and Georg(e) E. Petersson, who in 1854, under the firm name of Andersson & Petersson, opened a general store, which they conducted until 1857.

The name of Andover early became known in many parts of Sweden, and the place long continued to be the destination of Swedish emigrants westward bound. The conceptions of its size and importance were highly exaggerated. It is told of the emigrants of the forties and fifties that when they came to Chicago and noticed the bustle

and activity of that progressive city they would give vent to their surprise by exclaiming, "If Chicago is so large, just think what a place Andover must be!" There must have been a fresh surprise in store for them when, on their arrival in Andover, they found neither a city nor a town, nor even a village. Nevertheless, the early Swedish emigrants bound for other points than Andover were comparatively few. From there, however, they soon scattered over the state in every direction. Although they did not leave Andover in great numbers at any time, yet from various aspects that settlement must be considered the second mother colony in Illinois, Bishop Hill holding first place.

Andover early became known as a conservative and reliable Swedish-American community, a reputation which has followed it to this day. The reasons for this conservatism are doubtless to be found in the teachings imparted to the settlers by their early pastors, principally Revs. L. P. Esbjörn, Jonas Swensson and Erland Carlsson, who labored in this field for a long term of years. The first two, in particular, exercised a very marked influence on the character of the settlers.

As stated before, a Swedish Lutheran congregation was organized here as early as 1850. This was the first regularly organized Swedish Lutheran church in America since the days of the Delaware Swedes. Two years previously, pastoral work had been begun in New Sweden, Iowa, but no fully organized church was established there until a later date. Also a Swedish Methodist church was very early established in Andover, but the year of its founding is in dispute. Some claim 1848, others 1849, and still others 1850 as the correct date. The Baptists and the Mission Friends, on the contrary, have not deemed it worth while entering this old community, nor has any fraternal organization met with encouragement in Andover.

At the close of the year 1905, the total Swedish population in the Andover settlement, extending over three townships, was roughly estimated at from 1,500 to 2,000 persons.

VICTORIA, KNOX COUNTY

Victoria is located on a rolling prairie in the northeastern part of Knox county. Its first white inhabitants were Edward Brown, John Essex, and one Mr. Frazier, all of whom settled there in 1835. The first marriage solemnized there took place in 1838, between Peter Sonberger and Phebe Wilbur. The first house was built in 1837 on a plain near the subsequent site of the town. The first sermon was preached in Victoria in 1836 by Rev. Charles Bostie, a Methodist minister.

In course of time, a number of other settlers arrived, the first Swede among them being Jonas Hedström, the Methodist preacher. He came in 1838, from Farmington, Fulton county, his first place of residence on Illinois soil. For several years Hedström was the only Swede in Victoria, but after the Erik Janssonists began to settle at Bishop Hill, a number of these were by him attracted to Victoria. We have already related how Olof Olsson, their first envoy, with his family came there in 1845 and was housed in a rude hut of logs situated in Copley township; also how Erik Jansson himself and his kindred found shelter in the same log cabin the following year. Not long afterwards, Sven Larsson, Olof Norlund, and Jonas Jansson arrived from Söderala, Helsingland, and Jonas Hedin from Hede, Herjedalen. Norlund and Jansson soon succumbed to the cholera, and the others left Victoria for Red Oak Grove after a stay of only a few weeks.

Among the earliest settlers here may be mentioned Olof Olsson from Ofvanaker, Helsingland, who came to Bishop Hill in 1846, but after three months bade farewell to the prophet and his colony and moved to Victoria, where he bought a small farm. Olsson also died shortly after his arrival. Jonas Hellström, a tailor, left Bishop Hill in 1847 and opened a tailor shop at Victoria, where he plied his trade until 1850, when he caught the gold fever and went to California. After a year he returned to his old trade at Victoria. At the outbreak of the Civil War, he enlisted as sergeant in Company C, 83rd Illinois Volunteers, being advanced in 1864 to the rank of first lieutenant in the 8th U. S. Artillery. He died shortly afterward, leaving a wife and one son. "Old Man Bäck" from Bollnäs, Helsingland, an eccentric character, was another of the Bishop Hill settlers who moved to Victoria, where he purchased a small farm in Copley township. He is said to have considered himself the most important personage in the entire community. Olof Olsson from Alfta, another Erik Janssonist, simultaneously with Bäck moved to Copley township and became one of Victoria's first landowners. Then came in rapid succession Hillberg, Hans Hansson, Carl Magnus Pettersson, Sven Larsson, Lars Larsson, and Peter Källman. The last named accompanied the first party of Erik Janssonists to Chicago, remaining in that city a few years, subsequently living three years in Galesburg, finally settling in Victoria in 1853. He died in 1877, leaving a family. Furthermore, we find among the Swedish pioneers at Victoria Charles Pettersson from Österunda, Upland, who also came with the first Erik Janssonist party, remaining two years in New York, and coming to Victoria in 1848. He also went to California in 1850 as a gold seeker, and eventually settled on the coast. John E. Seline was another Erik Janssonist who deserted Bishop Hill, going to Galesburg in 1849, whence he moved to Victoria, where he was employed as a building contractor until 1856,

when he purchased a farm. This man was one of Erik Jansson's twelve apostles. Seline later in life became an agnostic and a stanch follower of Robert G. Ingersoll. One Petter Skoglund, who came over with the Esbjörn party of emigrants, settled down in Victoria as a tailor, but later went to farming. He was still living in 1880, in comfortable circumstances. Peter Dahlgren from Österunda severed his allegiance to Erik Jansson after half a year's stay in the colony and established himself in Victoria township as a farmer in 1853. He was accidentally killed in 1856 by falling earth.

The Town of Victoria was organized May 11, 1849, by John Becker, John W. Spalding, G. F. Reynolds, A. Arnold, Jonas Hedström, W. L. Shurtleff, Jonas Hellström, Joseph Freed and J. J. Knopp. The site then selected was not the same as the present one, being a mile and a half southeast, where Hedström had a blacksmith shop, Becker a general store, and Reynolds a hotel. The present village of Victoria slowly grew up to one side of this starting-point.

The large Swedish settlement of which Victoria forms the center early grew to be one of the most flourishing localities in the state. Prosperity was general owing partly to the fact that the Swedes almost from the start became owners of the soil, partly to the circumstance that Methodism gained a firm foothold there from the first, making for industry, temperance and good morals. Furthermore, this settlement is the most Americanized Swedish community in the whole state, resulting from early stoppage of immigration, the great majority of its present inhabitants having been born and reared in this country. From the very start Methodism became a power in that community and is still firmly rooted there. The Swedish Methodist church is the only house of worship in the place and almost the entire population of the village and the surrounding country are members of that congregation. Neither Lutherans, Baptists, nor Mission Friends have sought to establish missions there, and encroachment by secular organizations in this stronghold of Methodism is out of the question.

The population of the town of Victoria in 1900 was 329. The number of Swedish-Americans in the village proper together wih the surrounding settlement we have been unable to ascertain.

GALESBURG, KNOX COUNTY

The city of Galesburg is situated on a rolling plain, 164 miles southwest of Chicago, on the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy railway line. It was named from George W. Gale, who, together with several others, came there from Oneida county, N. Y., in 1836 and purchased 11,000 acres of land in Knox county. On this tract he laid out a town site, the sale of lots and the building of houses progressing nicely at

first. In one year the population increased to 232. From 1837 to 1850 progress was slow, owing to lack of communications. The outlook for a railroad line through the place brightened during the latter year, however, causing increased business activity in the little town.

During the first decade of its existence Galesburg had a formidable rival in the neighboring town of Henderson, now Knoxville, which had certain advantages through permitting the sale of liquors, a traffic absolutely prohibited in Galesburg. So strict were the authorities in this respect that they inserted in every deed to property sold within the town limits a clause specifically prohibiting the sale of spirituous liquors on the premises. In the meantime, the liquor traffic flourished in Henderson, where the Galesburg people also had to go when in need of the cup that cheers. The rapid growth of the town



Galesburg—Main Street

soon inspired dreams of greatness in the Hendersonites, mingled with pity for Galesburg, which town seemed doomed to perpetual stagnation. A certain Swede, who was particularly hopeful for the future of Henderson, bought two building lots there for $200, although he might have got them in Galesburg at a much lower figure. Only a few years later, he sold his two lots for $20. The slump in realty values in Henderson came when Galesburg got its railroad. On Dec. 7, 1854, the first locomotive steamed into Galesburg over the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy road, which was then almost completed. On Jan. 1, 1849, the town got its first newspaper, "The Knox Intelligencer." In 1873 it became the county seat of Knox county.

The Galesburg of today is a live, wide-awake and somewhat aristocratic city, whose population of 18,607 at the census of 1900 had

reached 20,000 at the close of 1905. It is one of the chief railway centers of the state, being the intersection of the main line of the Burlington, with several branches, and the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fé railways. The city has several beautiful parks, and its streets are shaded by avenues of trees giving to the entire city the aspect of a park. The pavements are of brick throughout. The city has a splendid street railway system, excellent waterworks, is well lighted, and has an efficient fire department. Although not a factory center, yet Galesburg has a number of manufacturing plants, including two foundries, an agricultural implement factory, flour mills, wagon factories and a broom factory. The railway shops of the Burlington road are located here, also extensive stock yards. Coal mines are found in the vicinity. Galesburg has a handsome opera house, five banks, nineteen churches, several of them Swedish, and ten public schools, including one high school. It is also a notable educational center, having several higher institutions of learning, namely, Knox College, Lombard University, and one or two Catholic schools. The courthouse, which is the seat of the Knox county government, is one of the largest and handsomest buildings of its class in the state. The city is situated in the center of one of the most fertile and prosperous farming districts in Illinois, with which it stands in direct and intimate communication. The townspeople as well as the farmers of the surrounding country are well-to-do, and, taken all in all, Galesburg is as fortunately situated and as prosperous as any of the smaller cities of the state.

The first Swedish settlers in Galesburg arrived about the middle of the forties. In 1847, as far as known, the only Swedes there were the following: John Youngberg and family, one of the early Bishop Hill colonists, who later removed to Galva, but returned to Galesburg and went from there to California in 1860; Nils Hedström, a tailor by trade, who afterwards settled in the Victoria colony; Anders Thorsell, a shoemaker from Djursby, Vestmanland, who came over in 1846 with one of the first parties of Erik Janssonists; a family by the name of Modin; Kristina Muhr, a widow, and Olof Nilsson, a shoemaker. Thorsell, who is said to have been a very skillful workman, plied his trade for some time with so great success that he accumulated a small fortune. Had he stuck to the last and shunned the bottle, he would have become the wealthiest Swede in Galesburg, but unfortunately he became a slave to the liquor habit. He died in 1870 leaving a widow and one child.

The majority of Swedes who settled in Galesburg earlier than 1854 were such as had deserted Bishop Hill, having become dissatisfied with conditions in that colony. In the year last named, however, the influx

of immigrants brought many Swedish settlers directly to Galesburg, and from that day its Swedish population has constantly grown, numbering at the close of 1905 about 5,000, American born descendants included. That this numerous element has made itself felt in the development of the city and set its impress on its general character goes without saying. In every line of activity in Galesburg Swedes are engaged. We find them as city and county officials, as merchants, and in all the various trades. They are employed in considerable numbers on the railroads and at the Burlington shops.

In the Swedish colony here different denominations early began missionary work. As early as 1850 Swedish Methodist class meetings were held, and the following year Jonas Hedström organized a Swedish Methodist congregation. Simultaneously, Rev. L. P. Esbjörn, the Swedish Lutheran pastor at Andover, began work in this field, and a church was established in 1851. This, the First Swedish Lutheran Church of Galesburg, in 1853 secured as its pastor Rev. T. N. Hasselquist, another pioneer of Swedish Lutheranism in America. The Swedish Baptists in 1857 organized a church, which had dwindled down to seven members in 1880; a few years later, however, work was pushed with renewed vigor, resulting in a reorganization in 1888. In 1868 a second Swedish Lutheran church was organized, composed of former members of the first church, and other persons. We are creditably informed that the present Mission Church was formed from its membership. A third Swedish Lutheran congregation in Galesburg was organized several years ago, which now seems to have disbanded. There is also a Swedish Episcopal church in the city.

The fraternal movement was started among the Galesburg Swedes in 1866 when a sick benefit society, named Skandia, was organized. The society was soon forced out of existence by church opposition. A lodge of Good Templars, organized the following year under the name of Svea, was almost equally shortlived. In 1871 a Scandinavian lodge of Odd Fellows was formed. Among the present Swedish population of Galesburg we find no great interest in fraternal movements based on nationality.

In local politics the Swedes of Galesburg have taken aggressive part, many having served the city or county in various capacities. At least one of their number, M. O. Williamson, has been honored with a high state office, having served as state treasurer for the term of 1901-1903.

Galesburg has the distinction of being the cradle of the Swedish-American press. Here was started in 1854, by Rev. Hasselquist, the first Swedish American newspaper of permanence, viz., "Hemlandet," its first number being issued Jan. 3, 1855. This paper was published

at Galesburg until the close of 1858, when it was removed to Chicago. In the early part of 1859, "Frihetsvännen," another Swedish paper, was launched in Galesburg, but was discontinued in 1861. This journal was started to champion the cause of the Baptist denomination, which was the object of continuous attacks by "Hemlandet." A third Swedish organ, "Galesburgs Veckoblad," started in 1868, shared the fate of "Frihetsvännen," being discontinued after a short time. A couple of religious papers in the Swedish language have also been published here for short periods, and after the great fire in 1871, "Nya Verlden," a Swedish weekly newspaper of Chicago, was published for five months in Galesburg.

The Swedish colony of Galesburg furnished a proportionate number of recruits to the Union army during the Civil War. Company C, 43rd Illinois Volunteers, was made up exclusively of Swedish-Americans from Galesburg and vicinity.

These data establish Galesburg's claim to an eminent place in the history of the Swedes not only of Illinois but of the country at large.

MOLINE, ROCK ISLAND COUNTY

This community dates back to the year 1843, when the first houses were built on the site of the present city of Moline. The place made little progress until the late forties, when John Deere and others laid the foundation for the local plow and agricultural implement manufacturing industry which caused the place to develop with enormous strides during the next few decades and which has given the city world-wide fame. The plow works of Deere and Company are said to be the largest in the world and their products are sent annually to the uttermost parts of the earth. The Moline Plow Company is the name of a younger concern which manufactures plows and other agricultural implements on a large scale. Besides these, Moline has a large number of industrial plants, making it one of the greatest manufacturing cities in the state. The chief reasons for the subsequent location of so many factories at Moline were its water power facilities, its location on the border of two of the most flourishing agricultural states in the Union, and its unexcelled communications by land and water with all parts of the country.

As an industrial city, Moline naturally has a large population of laborers. A large percentage of its many thousands of workingmen are Swedes, many of whom have established economic independence and a respected station in the community by their traditional industry, thrift and good habits. The greater number have homes of their own and some are quite wealthy. The Swedes of Moline are a power

in the community not merely by dint of numbers but owing to their splendid citizenship. While conscientiously fulfilling their duties as citizen, they cautiously guard their rights as such, and as a result they will obtain the majority in the city government from time to time. A large number of them belong to one church or another. Almost every religious denomination pursuing work among the Swedish people is here represented. The fraternity movement also has made great accessions. The neighboring Augustana College has exerted considerable influence on the numerous Swedish population of Moline, giving out powerful impulses to religious and intellectual endeavor.



Moline—Bird's Eye View from City Hospital

While the great mass of the Swedish workmen are common factory hands, not a few of them have forged ahead by skill and competence to become foremen, superintendents and mechanical experts in the works, and in rare instances they have gone so far as to found their own industrial establishments.

The earliest Swedish settlers in Moline were Olaus Bengtsson and Carl Johansson, the former coming over from Sweden in 1847, the latter in 1848. Bengtsson landed with wife and children in Chicago and, being unable to find work, left his eldest son there and came on to Moline on foot, accompanied by his wife and three of the children, the parents taking turns in carrying the smaller ones when their strength gave out. The family settled on a farm in Moline township, near the Rock River, and did well at farming. Olaus Bengtsson died before the eighties. The son left behind in Chicago after three years rejoined the family, when he had to learn his mother tongue anew,

having completely forgotten it while living exclusively among English-speaking people.

Carl Johansson, a tailor by trade, came from Kämpestad, Östergötland, to Andover in 1847 and from there to Moline the next year. The place was at that time a bit of a village with a grocery and sundry other little stores where the farmers of the neighborhood exchanged their farm products for merchandise and provisions. A flour and saw mill combined was located on the river bank, and from the Illinois side, stretching across the south branch of the Mississippi to the island opposite, was a wooden dam which served until 1858. A large portion of the present site of the city was under cultivation, and at the foot of the hills which now comprise a fine part of its residence district grew thick woods from which the early inhabitants derived their fuel supply.

During the years 1840 to 1850 came the following Swedish settlers: Sven Jacobsson, a carpenter from Vermland, with family, who subsequently moved to Vasa, Minn., but returned to Moline after a few years; Carl Petter Andersson, who purchased land on the bluffs where he was still engaged in farming thirty years later; Gustaf Johnson, with family, he and Jacobsson dying before the eighties; Erik Forsse with family, who later joined the Bishop Hill colony, was a major in the 57th Illinois Regiment during the war, removing to Falun, Salina county, Kansas, some time after the close of the war; Jonas Westberg, who died prior to 1880; M. P. Petersson, who began farming on the bluffs, then conducted a small store, removed to Altona, thence to Iowa, where he was still living in 1880; Petter Söderström, who moved to Minnesota and from there to Swede Bend, Ia.; Sven J. Johnson, who for thirteen years ran the ferryboat across the Mississippi between Rock Island and Davenport; Abraham Andersson from Gnarp, Helsingland, a hired man who bought a small property in Moline and at his death in the early fifties willed to the Swedish Lutheran Church a house and lot as a parsonage for its future pastor.

A unique character among the immigrants was Jon Olsson from Stenbo, Forssa parish, Helsingland, who came to Moline in 1850. In the old country he had lived like a peasant king on a fine, well cultivated estate. When Erik Jansson, the prophet, came to Forssa and began preaching, the "Old Man of Stenbo," as he was commonly called, was among the first to embrace the doctrines of the prophet and open his home for his meetings. His sons also early affiliated with the new sect, one of them, Olof Stenberg, or Stoneberg, which was the American form of his name, becoming one of its leaders. During the winter of 1849-50 he and Olof Johnson went back to Sweden in order to gather together the remaining followers of Erik

Jansson and bring them to America. Then it was arranged that the old man, who was now a widower, also should emigrate, but he did not accompany his son, preferring to travel alone. After having sold his estate, he chartered a steamer at Hudiksvall, took a cargo of iron and, in addition, all his household goods and utensils, down to the dough-troughs and wooden bowls and spoons. The voyage across the Atlantic was successful. He took with him a small party of emigrants, part of whom, at least, were not Erik Janssonists. In New York he sold his cargo, but brought with him inland the whole odd collection



Moline—Fifteenth Street

of partly worthless wares, which no doubt cost him a pretty penny in freightage.

He made straight for Bishop Hill, but apparently did not take a fancy to the locality and its prospects. Besides, he probably hesitated to turn over his considerable fortune to the common exchequer. Be this as it may, he made his appearance in Moline early in January, 1851, having already purchased two houses there, one a brick, the other a frame building, with large lots appertaining. It was rumored that he deposited $20,000 in gold in a bank in Rock Island; whether or not, he was looked upon as a mighty rich man.

"The Old Man of Stenbo" was an odd character in every respect. He stuck religiously to the manners and customs of his old home

He wore an old fashioned coat, its skirts reaching almost to his heels, and a leathern apron of nearly the same length. Dressed in this fashion, he circulated about the streets of the little village with an agility quite unusual for a man of his years. If he found a chunk of coal, an old shoe, a broken dish or a stick of wood he would pick it up, carry it home and place it on a pile of similar rubbish in the middle of the floor of the living room. In the basement he had arranged the appurtenances of a blacksmith shop brought over from Sweden, and the smoke from the smithy, which penetrated the whole house, did not bother him in the least. In the basement he also had an oven of masonry in the Swedish style, where he baked thin loaves of hard bread in the manner of the Helsingland peasantry.

The old man practiced genuine old time hospitality, and would always urge his friends to partake of his repast, were it only a pot of cabbage soup served in wooden bowls. Having broken the thin bread into the bowl he would invariably dust the flour from his hands into the bowl so as not to waste any of his God-given substance.

At length, the old man was lured back to Bishop Hill. Though advanced in years, he was hankering after another matrimonial venture, and what induced him to go was the assurance of friends that a suitable bride had been picked out for him. The match was made, and so he moved to Bishop Hill with all his earthly belongings, which presumably went the way of all other small fortunes invested in that enterprise. A few years after his removal the "Old Man of Stenbo" breathed his last.

While he was still in Moline, there lived with him for some time Per Andersson from Hassela and Per Berg from Hög, Helsingland. These men went to Minnesota in the spring of 1851 and there founded the Chisago Lake settlement. One Peter Viklund from Ångermanland, who also lived in Moline at the time, accompanied them, settling in the vicinity of Taylor's Falls, where he died. Another of the early Swedish settlers in Moline was Daniel Nilsson from Norrbro, Helsingland, who about the same time founded the settlement of Marine, near Marine Mills. Along in the summer of 1851 Hans Smith and his family moved to Moline from Princeton. He also left for Minnesota, going to Chisago Lake.

The first attempt at organization among the Swedish population of Moline was the founding of the Swedish Lutheran Church, which still prospers. The founder was Rev. L. P. Esbjörn of Andover. The organization meeting was held in the home of Carl Johansson, the tailor, this being a small room, 14 by 10 feet, in which those interested in the movement had habitually met to worship. But Esbjörn was not long to be alone in the field of religious endeavor among the Moline

Swedes. Shortly after his first visit, the enterprising Rev. Jonas Hedström appeared and, being cordially received by the other pioneer Swedish resident, Olaus Bengtsson, at once began to hold Methodist meetings in the equally primitive home of that pioneer. In the latter part of the year 1850 or the beginning of 1851, he organized here a little Swedish Methodist church, which, like the Lutheran, grew and prospered apace with the influx of Swedish immigrants.

A third Swedish church, called Gustaf Adolf, now a part of the Swedish Mission Covenant, was organized in 1875, and in the following



Moline Third Avenue

year a fourth one, the Swedish Baptist Church. A little flock of Swedish Episcopalians, formed in recent years, worked with but scant success, and soon disbanded.

The fraternal orders have operated very successfully in Moline, ever since the latter sixties. The first Swedish fraternal society organized there was Freja, in 1869, which flourished for a number of years. During the seventies a couple of other fraternal bodies came into existence, and during the last two decades a number of different societies have been formed, including a Swedish singing club, the Svea Male Chorus.

Three secular newspapers in the Swedish language have been published at Moline, viz., "Skandia," issued from December 1876 to April

1878, "Nya Pressen," from 1891 to 1897, and "Vikingen," published for a short time in the early nineties. At the present time, the city has no Swedish newspaper. In the seventies and eighties, the firm of Wistrand and Thulin published a number of books and papers in the interest of the work of the Augustana Synod.

The Swedes in Moline in 1880 numbered 2,589; at the close of 1905 their number was approximately 8,000. The total population according to the census of 1900, was 17,240, succeeding years showing a substantial increase.

ROCK ISLAND, ROCK ISLAND COUNTY

The prosperous city of Rock Island had its origin in 1816, when the national government planted a fort on the island of the same name, known as Fort Armstrong. As its commander was appointed Col. George Davenport, who, together with his wife and the garrison, for thirteen years were the only white inhabitants of the locality. The arrival in 1823 of the steamer "Virginia," with a cargo of provisions, from Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, made a welcome interruption in the monotony of frontier life. This vessel was the first to traverse this portion of the Mississippi. In 1825 Col. Davenport was appointed postmaster on the island and about the same time formed a co-partnership with Russell Farnham, a fresh arrival, to engage in fur trading with the Indians. For the purpose the partners put up a building which afterwards was occupied as the first court-house of Rock Island county. In 1828 a few whites, among whom was John M. Spencer, arrived and settled there. Oct. 19, 1829, Davenport and Farnham purchased a tract of land in the present county of Rock Island, that being the first realty transaction in the county.

In 1831 the little settlement had grown sufficiently strong to equip a troop of 58 men to engage in fighting the Indian chief Black Hawk and his tribe. Two years later, or 1833, Rock Island county was organized and on July 5th of the same year its first county election was held. After another two years Stephenson, as the place was then called, was selected as the county seat. Its name was subsequently changed to Rock Island. The first prison, a two story blockhouse, was erected in 1836. The same year work was begun on a county courthouse, which was completed the following year. The first incorporation of Rock Island was effected in 1841. Late in the sixties the federal government established on the adjacent island a large arsenal together with factories for small arms, the plant having since reached an extensive development. During the Civil War a large number of prisoners taken from the Confederates were kept on the island, and a burial ground for soldiers dates from that time. The entire island,

together with extensive establishments, is under the control and strict surveillance of the federal government, and the buildings and well-kept grounds are among the interesting sights in this part of the United States.

The west arm of the Mississippi at this point is navigable while the east and smaller arm is closed by a dam which furnishes water power for industrial plants in Moline and Rock Island and for the government works. A combination railroad and public highway bridge facilitates traffic between Rock Island and the city of Davenport, situated on the Iowa side, directly opposite, and named after the



View of Rock River from Black Hawk Watch Tower

first commander of Fort Armstrong, who together with several others in 1835 purchased the land on which the city was built.

Rock Island is at the present day a lively manufacturing and business center. Here are located large lumber mills, an agricultural implement factory, a glass factory, iron works, wagon factories, etc. The city has several banks and four newspapers, two of which are published daily. A new courthouse, one of the largest and most imposing structures in this part of the state, was erected a few years ago. In the surrounding public square stands a monument in honor of the men from Rock Island who fought in the Civil War. In a pretty park in the western part of the city is a statue of Black Hawk, the Indian chief, whose name is intimately combined with the early history of the city and its surrounding country. A charming point of vantage south of the city bears the name of Black Hawk Watch Tower. It is a high bluff rising steeply from the Rock River and crowned with a pavilion, the verandas of which afford a charming panorama

of the vicinity, northwest over the Mississippi and the wooded bluffs disappearing in the blue distance, southward and eastward over the fertile valley drained by the winding Rock River and cut at this point by a section of the Hennepin Canal. This prominence Chief Black Hawk is said to have often sought at the head of his warriors when on the lookout for the hated palefaces who took possession of the rich hunting grounds of his tribe. The census of 1900 gives the city of Rock Island 19,493 inhabitants.

The beginning of Swedish immigration to Rock Island was in 1848, when the founder of the Bishop Hill colony established a fishing camp on the island, managed by the aforementioned N. J. Hollander as foreman for a half dozen colonists. At this point Erik Jansson's wife and the youngest two of their children, together with several other persons, succumbed to the cholera in 1849.

Among the earliest Swedish settlers at Rock Island was A. J. Swanson, who came there in 1850 and made a small fortune in the boot and shoe business. Swanson, or Svensson, hailed from Ödeshög, Östergötland. When he died, Jan. 8, 1880, at the age of fifty-one, he left an estate worth $40,000. Other Swedish settlers about this time were: J. Bäck and Peter Söderström, both sons-in-law of Rev. J. Rolin of Hassela, Helsingland; Jonas Strand, Jonas Norell, and Erik Thomasson, all from Northern Sweden; A. T. Manké, and Fredrika Boberg. Manké is supposed to have been among those who perished at the burning of the steamer "Austria" on the Atlantic Sept. 13, 1858. Petter Söderström and Fredrika Boberg moved to Iowa before the eighties. In the fifties came August Linder, a tailor, Erik Åkerberg, a jeweler, N. J. Rundquist, a wagonmaker by the name of Envall, Israel Johansson, a shoemaker, one Hofflund, the brothers Carl and Peter Stjernström, the one a tailor, the other a day laborer. Hofflund moved to Osco township, and the Stjernström brothers to Iowa previous to 1880. Not until the sixties and more especially in the seventies, however, did the Swedish immigrants come to settle in Rock Island in any great number.

The little colony of Swedes that existed there in the fifties is noteworthy in this that it was the origin of the first Swedish Baptist Church in America, organized there Sept. 26, 1852. The founder was Gustaf Palmquist, a former school teacher from Stockholm who had joined the American Baptists in Galesburg in June of that year, and its first members were: A. T. Manké, A. Boberg and Fredrika, his wife, Petter Söderström, Carl Johansson, mentioned among the Moline pioneers, and Anders Norelius, a brother of Eric Norelius who later became a pastor of the Swedish Lutheran Church in America and is now president of the Augustana Synod.

The few Swedish Lutherans in Rock Island at first belonged to the church in Moline, but in 1870 they tired of going to the neighboring city to worship, and that year an independent congregation was organized, with a membership of only twenty-eight. The few Swedish Methodists and Mission Friends who reside in Rock Island are members of their respective church organizations in Moline. Rock Island has little or nothing in the way of Swedish fraternal societies.

The oldest and principal Swedish-American educational institution, Augustana College and Theological Seminary, is located at Rock Island, having been removed there from Paxton in 1875. Under the



Rock Island Spencer Square

guidance of zealous and competent educators, the institution has developed far beyond the aspirations of its founders. Besides being a complete college and a theological seminary, Augustana embraces an academic department, a normal school, a commercial school, a musical conservatory, and a department of art. For several years past the work of gathering large endowment funds for the institution has been carried on. These and other signs point to a period of new and greater prosperity for this old and venerated institution of learning. In immediate proximity to the institution lies the Augustana Book Concern, the publishing house of the Augustana Synod.

The Swedish-American population of the city of Rock Island at the close of the year 1905 was estimated at 3,500.

PRINCETON, BUREAU COUNTY

On the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railway, 105 miles west of Chicago, is situated on a plateau the pretty little city of Princeton. Its history dates from the year 1832, when the site was mapped out and the first houses were erected. A log cabin, here as in most of the other settlements, formed the first human habitation. It was built by one S. D. Cartwright near the spot where the Congregational Church now stands. The sale of lots was not brisk, and it took a number of years to dispose of the entire plat. Bureau county was organized Feb. 28, 1837, when Princeton was made the county seat. The county court held its first sessions there the followingAugust. In 1845 the first courthouse was built, with county jail and sheriff's residence in connection. The structure was remodeled in 1860.

Prior to 1850, only five known Swedes resided in Princeton. Doubtless the first to arrive was a man named Burgeson, who later settled at Andover. He came to Illinois in company with the Rev. Pillsbury mentioned under the head of Andover, and for some time was in his service. Simultaneously, a young Swede was in the employ of Owen Lovejoy, the renowned abolitionist, who in the later forties and early fifties was stationed in Princeton as minister of the Congregational Church and afterwards was elected to Congress. In the city hotel a Swedish girl was employed, supposed to have been Sigrid Norell from Bergsjö, Helsingland, who in 1859 became the wife of A. J. Field from Östergötland. The name of the fourth one is not known to a certainly. It may have been the aforesaid Field.

The fifth one was Captain Erik Wester, the adventurer spoken of in Chapter III. This man's career is of sufficient interest to warrant a fuller account. His right name was Westergren, shortened to Wester for convenience. The year and place of his birth and the date of his arrival in America are not known. It is a matter of record, however, that he emigrated to escape punishment for a crime. Wester, who was employed as guard in the riksbank in Stockholm, was once sent to Helsingör to purchase a large lot of old rags for the Tumba paper mills, where the paper for the Swedish national currency has been turned out for years. Instead of closing the deal, he fled to America with the money entrusted to him. Landing in New Orleans, he remained there for an indefinite period. In the fall of 1848 he made his appearance at Bishop Hill in company with two other adventurers, one being John Ruth, who later became notorious, the other a man by the name of Zimmerman, who, like Ruth, claimed to have a military training from Sweden, and to have served in the French army during the campaign in Algiers. Bishop Hill and its plodding life had no charm for the three soldiers of fortune. Zimmerman soon departed

for California, presumably in quest of gold, while Wester went to the Pine Lake settlement in Wisconsin, and Ruth, who had been enamored of a young woman at Bishop Hill, remained there a few months, after which time he resumed his roaming career.

At the outset, Wester masqueraded at Pine Lake as a very devout person, going around preaching in the different homes. Finding that this line of endeavor among the few Swedish settlers yielded but poor returns, he established himself as a barber, securing friends and customers among the more numerous Norwegians, many of whom are said to have been victimized by this smooth stranger.

Having reached the end of his rope in Wisconsin, Wester returned to Illinois. He first appeared in Peru, whence he came to Princeton in the spring of 1850, so utterly destitute that he was unable to pay the freight on his barber's chair. Though short of money, he was enterprising and resourceful in his own peculiar way, and soon found Princeton a splendid field to exploit. A prosperous merchant helped him to a supply of cigars and with that he opened for business in a shanty. When business grew a trifle dull, he turned his cigar store into a grog shop. This attracted more customers, the business grew, and presently Wester had to look around for larger quarters. Soon the place grew to be quite a large department store, considering Princeton's stage of development at the time. He sold goods of every description, such as clothing, eatables, boots and shoes, hardware, tobacco and whisky. Wester subsequently extended his business beyond the limits of Princeton, establishing a branch store at Galesburg.

For a time it appeared as though the quondam bank messenger, evangelist and barber would finish his career as a rich and respected businessman. Such might have been the case, but for wild speculations and a decided decline in general business. In the young neighboring town of Galva, Olof Johnson, the financier of Bishop Hill, was at this time actively engaged in the management of its affairs, and looking forward to a highly roseate future. Why not join with him in one of his numerous enterprises and get rich in a trice? With this object in view, Wester went into partnership with him and Samuel Remington and started the Western Exchange Bank at Galva. No one knows how much money Wester furnished, but it is more than likely that the bulk of the capital was taken out of the Bishop Hill funds. This was in 1857, while the speculative fever, especially in the West, was still at its height. The same year the reaction came—a panic that swept the entire country, wrecking countless business enterprises vastly more solid than those of Olof Johnson and Wester. The latter was caught in the crash, so was his financial institution, and in this failure

a large bulk of the money that the Bishop Hill colonists had earned by the sweat of their brow is said to have been lost.

But Wester persevered with dogged tenacity. The next year he made a new start, but failed again. In 1859 he started in business for the third time, but only to court another catastrophe. This time he appears to have made a fraudulent assignment, it being reported that he withheld more than enough property to pay his debts, had he been so inclined. With $1,700 in his pocket and a trunk packed with revolvers—it will be remembered that he also dealt in hardware—Wester left, stating that he was bound for Chicago, but going instead to Dallas, Texas, where he was still living in 1880, but in reduced circumstances. What afterwards became of the adventurer, whether he again got on his feet or went down in the struggle for existence, there are no records to show.

In the summer of 1850, A. P. Anderson came to Princeton from the parish of Horn, Östergötland. He had come over the year before and gone to Peru, whence he came alone to Andover in the hope of finding certain relatives, but on his arrival he learned that they were all dead. He then returned to Peru and moved with his family to Princeton. Anderson still lived in 1880 at the age of seventy-one. His eldest child, a son, had then lived in California for many years.

In the autumn a whole party of Swedish settlers arrived from northern Helsingland and southern Medelpad. They had sailed from Gefle August 17th on the Swedish ship "Oden," Captain Norberg, and arrived in New York October 31st, coming on to Princeton November 21st, after a difficult journey. In the party was Erik Norelius from Hassela, Helsingland, then a mere youth of seventeen, whom Providence had destined to take an eminent part in Swedish-American religious progress. In his valuable work entitled, "The History of the Swedish Lutheran Congregations and of the Swedes of America," he has given a vivid and graphic description of the whole journey.

Of this party of immigrants a few stopped in Princeton while the rest, Norelius among them, proceeded to Andover. Among those remaining at Princeton were: Hans Kamel, Olof Jonsson, Staffan Berglöf, and Anders Nord with their families, all from Bergsjö, Helsingland; Per Söderström from Norrbo or Bjuråker, Helsingland; Hans Smitt from Hassela, Helsingland; Anders Larsson from Torp, Medelpad; Olof Nilsson and one Simeon from Attmar, Medelpad. The Kamel family died out before the eighties, Söderström after a few years moved to Iowa or Minnesota and Simeon went away, leaving no trace. Olof Jonsson became the first Swedish property-holder of Princeton, living and prospering as a farmer for more than twenty-five years, afterwards removing to Humboldt, Kansas, where he is

said to have owned large country estates. Anders Larsson also went west in the late seventies.

In 1851 came Lars Magnus Spak and Nils Johan Nilsson from Djursdala, Småland, and Jacob Nyman from Tjärstad, Östergötland, the first and the last named with their families. The Spak family had come to this country in 1849, living for a time in Chicago, where they are said to have taken part in the organization of the Swedish Episcopal Church of St. Ansgar (Ansgarius.) The family head passed away long before 1880, but his widow was then still living, also their elder



Princeton Main Street Looking North

son, who was engaged in business. The younger son was living in Galesburg, as also the daughter, who was married to one A. J. Andersson. Jacob Nyman also passed away in the late seventies, his widow and their son Johan still living in Princeton after his death. Nils J. Nilsson was also conducting a business of some kind in the eighties.

The year 1852 brought large acquisitions of Swedes to Princeton. Among the new arrivals were the following: C. M. Sköld, a tailor, from Vestra Ryd, unmarried, and Anders P. Damm, with six children, from Åsby, both in Östergötland; Anders Petter Larsson from Vadstena, Östergötland; J. O. Lundblad from an unknown locality in the same province; S. Frid and wife from Wä, Skåne; Åke Nilsson with wife and two children; Nils Lindeblad with wife and son, all from Skåne, but localities unknown; P. Fagererantz from Brösarp, Skåne;

Lars Andersson från Gingrid and Johan A. Westman from Börstig, both located in Vestergötland; Pehr Christian Andersson, also from Vestergötland, locality unknown; Johan Gabriel Stahl with wife, son and daughter from Småland, place unknown; Johan Andersson and Henrik Norman from Stockholm. Of these Sköld was still living in 1880; Nilsson lived on his own farm near Wyanet; Pehr Christian Andersson was employed by a railway company since twenty-five years back; also Westman, Ståhl and his wife, Fagererantz, Anders Petter Larsson, Lars Andersson and J. O. Lundblad, the latter living in Aledo, Mercer county, were among the survivors in 1880. Norman removed to Monmouth in 1856. Damm, who changed his name to Stem, died in 1878, leaving a widow and several children; Frid died before 1880, also Lindeblad, while the wife and son of the latter were still living in Princeton in that year. Johan Andersson, who had been foreman in the printing office of "Stockholms Dagblad" died of the cholera in 1853, his wife returning to Stockholm the following year.

Another Swedish pioneer of Princeton was Jonas Andersson from Färila, Helsingland. He emigrated in 1849, remained a short time in Chicago, spent the following winter in St. Charles, went to Wisconsin in the spring, returning to St. Charles after working a few months in the woods, and remained there until 1853, when he moved to Princeton. Here he settled permanently and became the father of a large family. He was still living in the eighties and was a prosperous building contractor.

Almost simultaneously with Jonas Andersson came A. A. Shenlund. He was born at Toarp, Vestergötland, and was engaged in the merchandise business in his native land. He emigrated in 1853 to Princeton, where he went to work on Rev. Pillsbury's farm, his wife being employed there as housekeeper. Having worked for some time at sawing wood, he next got a situation as bookkeeper with the aforementioned Wester, but disapproving of the loose business methods of his employer, he went into business on his own account, opening a small grocery store near the railway station just two days before the first railway train rumbled into Princeton. A few months later he removed with his stock to Bureau Junction, but moved back to Princeton after five months. When Wester failed in business, the administrators persuaded Shenlund to take charge, and he conducted the business until 1865, when he retired. In 1868 he resumed business in partnership with one Clark who withdrew from the firm in 1876. After that Shenlund ran the business alone for a number of years with so great success that he grew moderately wealthy. He was highly respected by his townsmen, Americans and Swedes alike. Shenlund died many years ago.

Speaking of the early business men of Princeton it may be noted that S. Frid in 1854 established a boot and shoe store, conducting the business for some years, afterwards going into farming. Having no success as a farmer, he soon returned to the last and stuck to it, being successfully engaged in the shoe business to his death. J. O. Lundblad had early left for Missouri, but returned when the Civil War broke out, engaging in the same line of business but soon afterwards removed to Rock Island, going from there to Aledo to live. P. Fagererantz in 1853 established himself in Princeton as watchmaker and jeweler, conducting



Princeton Main Street Looking South

the business for a period of twenty-five years, after which he surprised his friends by going bankrupt. Although well advanced in years, he made a new start in business. In the vicinity of Princeton a number of Swedes settled and soon became prosperous farmers.

Religious activity was begun early among the Swedish people of Princeton. A Swedish Lutheran congregation was organized in 1854, a Swedish Mission church in 1870, a Swedish Baptist church being added seven years later.

According to the city directory, there were 1,200 Swedish-Americans in Princeton at the close of 1905, but well informed townsmen believed that figure too low, holding that the actual number was 1,400. The Swedes living in the surrounding locality are about equally numerous. Besides, there are Swedes in considerable numbers living

at other points in Bureau county, viz., Wyanet, Tiskilwa, Providence, Spring Valley, Ladd, Seaton, New Bedford, Walnut, and other places, adding about 1,200 more to the Swedish population in the county and bringing the total up to about 4,000.

CHICAGO, COOK COUNTY

There have been Swedish people in Chicago almost from the earliest days of the city, and their number has constantly increased until, at the last general census in 1900, it was 48,836, or greater than the population of Norrköping, the fourth city in Sweden in point of size. The same year there were in Chicago 95,883 persons born of Swedish parents, making a total Swedish-American population of 144,719. Counting as Swedish-Americans 6,707 persons, one of whose parents was born in Sweden and the other in some other foreign country, we would obtain a total of 151,426 Swedish-Americans in the city. During the last seven years this number naturally has grown according to the usual ratio of increase. This is further evidenced by the school census of 1904 which set the number of Chicagoans born in Sweden at 55,991. A comparison of various estimates would indicate a Swedish-American population in Chicago of not less than 170,000 at the close of 1907.

A large proportion of the Swedish-Americans have engaged in business and thereby laid the foundation for prosperity and economic independence. The great mass of their male population, however, is composed of skilled workmen. In almost every trade they are found, and everywhere they have the reputation of being highly intelligent, skillful and conscientious in their work. Not a few have distinguished themselves by making ingenious and practical inventions. Especially in certain trades, like that of the cabinetmaker, the architect and builder, the custom tailor and the mechanical artisan, they are found in the front rank. In many instances they have succeeded in building up comparatively large industrial establishments of their own; others are engaged as engineers and foremen in large industrial plants owned by Americans and men of other nationalities.

The majority of Swedish-American skilled workmen in Chicago doubtless are members of the labor organizations, their coolness and conservatism making them a desirable and wholesome element thereof. The unskilled laborers among them are few in proportion both to the entire number of Swedish-American workmen and to the proportion of unskilled laborers among other nationalities. As a consequence, the Swedish working class in Chicago stands on a higher economic plane than the corresponding class among the average foreign nation-

ality, and is able to lead an existence more in keeping with the American standard of life.

The Swedish workingmen are in the main industrious, orderly, temperate, and thrifty. Generally, their first care is to get a home of their own, and for this purpose they have usually placed their savings in some one of the Swedish building and loan associations, obtained loans, purchased lots and built their own houses. Probably few other nationalities can show so large a proportion of property owners and home builders. Long ago the Swedes of Chicago solved the question of workingmen's homes which is agitating industrial communities everywhere, thus setting an example worthy of emulation in other parts of the world. Many of the Swedish householders have two houses on their lots, the older one a frame structure built during pioneer days, the new one usually a brick building erected after the children grew up and the family began to prosper.

A number of Swedish skilled workmen and men in business and the professions put their earnings into realty; others deposit them in the banks or put them out at interest elsewhere. There are two Swedish banks in the city, viz., the State Bank of Chicago, founded in 1879, and the Union Bank of Chicago, founded in 1905. The majority prefer the latter method of keeping capital growing, as against the more risky one of speculating.

The Scandia Life Insurance Company is a Swedish corporation with head offices in Chicago, and the Swedish Methodists and Baptists each have a mutual life insurance society with headquarters here.

The Chicago Swedes have been criticised for their lack of political activity, and to a certain extent the criticism is deserved. True, they have always cast their votes in great numbers at elections and fulfilled their duties as as citizens in the intervals, yet when nominations and appointments were to be made they have not insisted on the representation due them in consideration of their numbers and their civic standing. This fact possibly is due to the prevailing opinion among them, that the office ought to seek the man and not the reverse. Furthermore, they seem to take greater pride in upbuilding and maintaining the community than in the governing of it. In other words they would rather be producers than consumers. The great mass of the politically interested among them are Republicans. In the wards where they are numerous they form political clubs, and evince great political activity, especially prior to important elections. These ward clubs are combined into a central organization known as the Swedish American Central Republican Club of Cook County, which in turn forms a part of the Swedish-American Republican League of Illinois. Many Swedish-Americans of Chicago have held political

offices in the city and the county, and not a few have represented the community in the state legislature during the past thirty years.

A trait characteristic of the Swedes in Chicago, as elsewhere, is their obedience to law and the high order of their citizenship. While they deprecate the wholesale manufacture of laws, they believe that good laws, dictated by the people's own sense of justice and equity, should be absolutely obeyed.

They believe in education and culture. They keep their children in school regularly, and the great number of prizes and distinctions awarded them from time to time bear witness to the fact that they rank with the best pupils both in point of diligence and of intelligence. Many of them continue their studies from the public to the high school, while others enter commercial schools in order to fit themselves for a business career. Still others in considerable number attend technological institutions, such as the Armour and Lewis institutes, pursuing courses in engineering or other technics, or go to the universities, the medical colleges, the law schools, the dental colleges, the musical conservatories, where they are graduated year by year in ever increasing numbers.

It would seem that so large a Swedish population would be capable of supporting a common institution of learning in the city. The absence of such an institution must be ascribed to the fact that from the first the nationality has been divided into numerous religious and fraternal organizations, each striving in its own way to make the greatest possible acquisitions and accomplish the best results in behalf of its own adherents.

Without exaggeration, it may be said that the traces of Swedish-American activity are most marked in the field of church and fraternal organization. The principal denominations and sects that have gained a foothold among them are the Lutherans, Methodists, Baptists and Mission Friends. Less numerous are the Episcopalians, the Salvationists, the Seventh-Day Adventists, and a few still smaller religious groups.

At the close of the year 1905, there were in Chicago and vicinity 41 Swedish Lutheran congregations having a total membership of 15,000 and owning property to the aggregate value of $517,300. The Swedish Methodists had 18 congregations with 2,520 members and property valued at $249,600; the Swedish Baptists, 11 congregations with 2,588 members and $159,975 worth of property, and the Mission Friends, 12 congregations with 2,036 members and property to the value of $131,940. As to the other denominations there are no statistics at hand.

These denominations carry on a relatively extensive work along

educational and charitable lines. The Lutherans control and maintain the Augustana Hospital, one of the prominent institutions of its kind in the city. Martin Luther College, an institution of learning, was founded by them in 1892 but discontinued in 1896. In Evanston the Swedish Methodists have their own theological seminary, and in Chicago they maintain a home for the aged, named Bethany Home. The Swedish Baptists also conduct their own theological institute, located in Morgan Park, and support an old people's home, known as "Fridhem." The Mission Friends not only own a school, North Park College, but a hospital and an old folks' home. In addition to these institutions there is in Englewood a Swedish-American hospital owned and controlled by the people of the various Swedish churches in that part of the city.

As far as it has been possible to ascertain, the Swedish fraternal societies and lodges in Chicago number about one hundred. In the total absence of common statistics exact information concerning them cannot be given. These organizations, designed for the pleasure as well as the pecuniary benefit of its members, annually disburse large sums in the form of sick benefits, funeral expenses and mutual life insurance. Two lodges, "Svithiod" and "Vikingarne," have branched out in recent years so as to form large independent orders, with branch lodges as far west as the Missouri River. The Independent Order of Svithiod now embraces 38 lodges and has 16 ladies' guilds. The Independent Order of Vikings is composed of 30 lodges in addition to which there are 15 ladies' guilds. The Svithiod and the Viking lodges of Chicago are included in the above total. There are 10 lodges of Good Templars, four other temperance societies, and a number of lodges of the Scandinavian Brotherhood of America. Other fraternities, including a couple of lodges each of Free Masons and Odd Fellows, together with nondescript organizations approximate twenty in number. Many churches, moreover, have their own sick benefit and benevolent societies.

A number of different societies have associated themselves for the common purpose of charity and benevolence. One is the Swedish Societies' Old People's Home Association (formerly the Swedish Societies' Central Association), which founded and maintains an old people's home at Park Ridge. The other is the Swedish National Association, which conducts a free employment bureau and carries on charity work in a measure.

A significant movement among Chicago's Swedes is the organization and maintaining of singing societies, chiefly male choruses. Such have existed for several decades and they now number a dozen, exclusive of male or mixed choirs connected with the churches

They all form a part of the American Union of Swedish Singers and, in order to further their local interests, they have united into a local organization named the Chicago Union of Swedish Singers.

In the field of culture, the Swedish-Americans here have accomplished noteworthy results, aside from the work of their churches, schools and singing organizations, this city being as far back as the '60s the Swedish-American literary producing center and for decades the location of a considerable publishing and bookselling business. At present no less than eight large weekly Swedish newspapers are published in Chicago, four being secular, viz., "Hemlandet", "Svenska Tribunen-Nyheter," "Svenska Amerikanaren," "Svenska Kuriren;" the remaining four religious wholly or in part, viz., "Sändebudet" (Methodist), "Nya Vecko-Posten (Baptist), "Missions-Vännen" (Mission Church), and "Chicago-Bladet" (Free Mission Church). In addition to those mentioned, a large number of monthly church and society papers are issued in this city. A general publishing business was first started in Chicago by the Swedish Lutheran Publication Society and is still continued by The Engberg-Holmberg Publishing Company. In connection with the church paper "Sändebudet" a Methodist Book Concern has more recently been established, in connection with "Missions-Vännen" a book store for the Mission Covenant, and in connection with "Chicago-Bladet" a similar store to meet the needs of the Free Mission churches. To this should be added that the American Baptist Publication Society has established a Swedish book department. Several small book stores are conducted by private persons.

It should not be forgotten that from time to time there have existed in Chicago various Swedish dramatic companies which, although composed largely of amateurs and not to be compared with the standard theatrical companies of Sweden, yet have served to acquaint Swedish-Americans with the Swedish drama of past and modern times.

These various lines of activity pursued by the Swedish people of Chicago are more fully treated in subsequent chapters.

Somewhat later than Flack and Von Schneidau, mention of whom has been made, one Åström came to Chicago from Norrland. In South Water street, not far from the spot where Old Fort Dearborn stood, he and another man from Norrland by the name of Svedberg, who came here from Buffalo, opened a restaurant, conducting that business for several years. This was in the latter forties. In 1850 Svedberg, doubtless smitten with the prevalent gold fever, went to California, and Åström returned to Sweden. He came to America a second time; after that nothing is known of him.

In 1846 the first party of Swedish immigrants to Chicago arrived. There were fifteen families, and the newcomers seem to have had no connection with the emigration movement directed by Erik Jansson. Not one among them understood a word of English, not one had a relative or friend here, all were poor to the verge of destitution. But von Schneidau befriended them, acting as their interpreter and counselor, and soon procured work for the men in the employ of two Americans, W. B. Ogden and A. Smith. They were set to clearing a piece of ground just north of the present Division street, at 50 cents per day, without board, which, nevertheless, they considered fairly good pay. That winter and all the following year (1847) those Swedes are said to have worked at sawing wood for a daily wage of from 50 cents to 62½ cents. The women took washing in American families and thereby earned 10 to 25 cents a day, with board.

Oct. 3, 1846, Jonas Olsson arrived in Chicago at the head of a party of Erik Janssonists bound for Bishop Hill. Many of the emigrants, having begun to doubt the divine mission of Erik Jansson, now refused to go any farther and decided to remain in Chicago. Among these recalcitrants was Jan Jansson, the prophet's own brother. He afterwards became the owner of a fertile farm situated one and one-half miles from Montrose, Cook county. Among the others were, Anders Larsson, John P. Källman, Pehr Ersson, Petter Hessling, A. Thorsell and Källström. They all lived together for a time in a house in Illinois street, between Dearborn avenue and State street.

The year after, forty Swedish immigrants came to the city, and in 1848 one hundred more. Times had now improved noticeably, so that a good laborer could earn 75 cents a day. But the necessaries of life were high, a barrel of flour costing $6 to $7, while pork sold at 6 to 8 cents per pound.

One of the earliest Swedish settlers in Chicago who, like Åström and Svedberg, had a business of his own, was a man from Gotland by the name of Lundblad. He came over in 1847 and the year after started a soda water factory which he ran for some months and then went to Quincy, where he died. His widow returned to Chicago and died here. At the close of the year 1848, the Swedish population of Chicago could not have exceeded 300, all of whom waged a hard fight for existence. In 1849 no less than 400 Swedish immigrants were added to Chicago's population. If conditions had been bad before, things now grew still worse, for the newcomers of that year brought the cholera, the epidemic causing indescribable suffering and misery among them.

In some instances the plague broke out on board the emigrant ships, and many victims were buried at sea. The majority of cases,

however, occurred on the tedious journey from the eastern ports to the western points of destination, and after the arrival. The canal-boats were stopped ever and anon to permit the emigrants to go ashore and bury their dead. Conditions grew little better after the railroad from the East to Chicago was completed. Then the emigrants were packed like cattle in uncomfortable cars whose doors were opened seldom, if at all, during the entire journey.

The cholera raged unabated for several years till 1854, inclusive, apparently claiming more victims that year than any foregoing, increasing immigration furnishing a favorable field for its ravages. In 1850 Chicago received 500 Swedish immigrants and in 1851-52 1,000 each year. We quote a few examples of the dreadful effect of the scourge among these people during 1854. One large party from Karlskoga and Bjurtjärn, in Vermland, brought with them six corpses, when the train arrived at the Michigan Central railway station. Seventeen of the party, afflicted with the disease, were brought to the pest-house, where more than half of their number died before morning. Of the older members of the Immanuel Swedish Lutheran Church, organized the year before, about one-tenth died of the plague, the percentage of deaths among their children being still greater. Among the newcomers the death rate was so great that two-thirds of the immigrants arriving that year are believed to have succumbed to the cholera.

Poverty, unspeakable misery, absolute wretchedness—such was the lot of the families of the deceased. Fortunately, there were charitable people among their fellow countrymen here, who took pity on these victims of pest and penury. Chief among these were Consul von Schneidau, and three clergymen, Gustaf Unonius, Erland Carlsson and Sven Bernhard Newman. The names of these four noble-hearted men shine in the annals of the Swedish pioneers in Chicago like stars in a dismal night. One's heart is warmed and the pulse is quickened in reading the accounts of what these men accomplished in behalf of the suffering immigrants.

Actuated by his goodness of heart as well as by his sense of duty, Consul von Schneidau obtained permission to use the United States Marine Hospital for the accommodation of the plague victims. As soon as they were fairly restored to health, the question of getting work arose. Yet this was sometimes a difficult problem, and if they did obtain employment, being weak and emaciated, they were not always equal to the task. In either event, they turned to von Schneidau for assistance, and he helped them as far as it was in his power to do so. Having exhausted his own resources, he appealed to public benevolence, nor was this done in vain, for donations poured in in such quantities

that the residence was turned into a veritable supply depot, where his good wife acted as distributor of the accumulated provisions.

Unonius was equally energetic in the cause of charity. In 1849, the very first year of his residence in Chicago, it fell upon him to render assistance to the cholera victims. He was untiring in his efforts to solicit among well-to-do citizens money, clothing and food for the relief of the sufferers. When the pesthouses could no longer hold the plague victims he opened the second story of his parsonage as a temporary hospital. His wife had the welfare of the patients equally at heart, giving them her service as nurse. When parents died, Unonius would see to it that their children were cared for, either in some orphanage or by adoption in private families.

Rev. Carlsson also, immediately upon his arrival in Chicago, became entirely engrossed in relief work among the cholera sufferers. Not only among the members of his flock, but among the immigrants as well, his energy proved equal to the emergency. Scarcely an immigrant train arrived but he was at the station to assist and advise his fellow countrymen. After having spent all that terrible summer of 1854 on a constant mission of relief among the sick, he himself was attacked by the plague in the fall, but rallied after a few weeks. Even after the cholera epidemic subsided, Rev. Carlsson continued his mission of benevolence among the Swedish immigrants.

What has been said of these three, in their relation to the cholera victims, applied equally to Rev. Newman. Without the slightest fear of the epidemic he went about ministering to his stricken countrymen, sat at their bedsides, comforting the sick and dying by word and deed, buried the dead and gave advice and succor to the survivors.

Sometimes Revs. Carlsson and Newman coöperated in the work. Thus, one day the former made the suggestion, "Brother Newman, suppose you take one street and I another, and we solicit for a common fund." The memory of the unselfish exertions on the part of these pioneer clergymen in the days of dire calamity will be ever dear to the hearts of succeeding generations of their countrymen.

Another example of prevalent conditions among the immigrants of those days may here be given. In 1855 Swedish and Norwegian paupers cost the city of Chicago and Cook county no less than $6,000, exclusive of assistance rendered by individuals aggregating a still larger sum. During the month of October that year, which was by no means the most unhealthy period, 35 Swedes who had died in private houses were buried at public expense because of the destitution of their families. During the same period the county defrayed the expense for the interment of about double that number of Swedes who died in

hospitals and the poorhouse. Yet health conditions and the death rate were no worse in Chicago than in Milwaukee or other neighboring cities.

The city of Chicago at this period was a mere nucleus for future development, and as yet few, if any, anticipated or dared hope for the enormous progress it was destined to make. The north side being the original location of the Swedish colony in Chicago, that part lays claim to the especial interest of Swedish-Americans.

In 1850 that part of the city was an open, almost uninhabited prairie, the only objects that broke the monotony of the scene being large stumps or individual trees still left standing. The locality was low and swampy, with here and there pools of stagnant water, inhabited by snakes and other reptiles. To the north from the present Division street line stretched an extensive swamp covered with underbrush and vines. Although the district was platted and the streets were laid out on paper, there were in fact no other thoroughfares than Kinzie street, North Clark street and Chicago avenue, if indeed those might be so styled in their almost impassable state. They were practically very badly kept country roads, unworthy of the name of city streets. But what could be expected of the north side at a time when the streets on the south side, in the very heart of the city, were at times little better than quagmires. Ordinarily they were like rough country roads flanked at intervals with narrow planks in lieu of sidewalks. In the fall, winter and spring they were especially wretched, not to say perilous to life. Then the mud would be knee deep throughout, while in places there would be bottomless mudholes. It was no uncommon sight to see, on Clark, Lake and other principal streets, a pole stuck in the middle of the street and on it a cross board bearing the legend: "No Bottom." In the north and west parts of the city as well as to the south of the "down town" district weeds man-high skirted the driveways on both sides, while the vacant blocks were the stamping ground of tethered cows and goats, and flocks of cackling geese, not to mention pigs, chickens and turkeys innumerable. Add to this that dead dogs and cats and other carcasses graced the roadsides and perfumed the air as they lay putrifying in the ditches, and you will have a true picture of Chicago and its immediate environments at this period.

On the north side the buildings were as yet few and primitive. Standing at the Clark street bridge you had an unobstructed view of a two-story house and an adjoining blacksmith shop erected by one Sheldon, a Norwegian, at Ohio street, just west of Market street. From the same point of observation one had a free prospect all the way to Hubbard street, where R. B. Johnson, another Norwegian, had built a house. So few and far apart were the houses in this neighborhood. The price of a building lot in those days was a mere bagatelle in

comparison with present day realty values. Tracts north of Division street could then be bought for $100 per acre, which was considered quite high enough. At Chicago avenue lots could be had for nothing, provided the applicants agreed to put up two-story houses on them, this stipulation being designed to attract people to the neighborhood and raise the value of realty. A few years before, or in 1847-49, any one could become the owner of lots 140 to 150 by 25 feet on the north and west sides, a few blocks from the river, for the mere trouble of sawing a few cords of wood for the owners of the ground. Many of the pioneers took advantage of this offer to procure cheap building lots. Not many years thereafter the price of such lots had risen to $1,000 and over. Today an immigrant who desired to earn one of these lots in the same manner would be sawing wood for the better part of his natural life.

The Swedes who had become established in Chicago at this time had located between Indiana and Erie streets, on an island formed by the two arms of the north branch of the river, the west arm following the present river bed while the eastern came about to present Orleans street. The place was known as "Swedish Town" and formed the nucleus for the populous north side Swedish community. The buildings on this island, as elsewhere in the outskirts of the city, were small frame houses or primitive log cabins, or shanties built of rough boards set on end. The latter style of architecture was much in vogue in the large stretch of swamp between Indiana street and Chicago avenue. The neighborhood was literally filled with these shanties, put up without respect for compass or street lines, by poor immigrants who could afford no better shelter. In these rude huts hundreds of Swedes lived and died during the terrible years of the cholera scourge in the early fifties.

After a few years the east arm of the river was filled in, whereby the island became part of the north side district. When the owners of the land on which the Swedes were squatters in the years 1853 and 1854 began to assert their property rights, the settlers were forced to move. They then bought lots here and there on the north side, the entire district being owned by two men, W. B. Ogden and W. L. Newberry. Both grew immensely rich from the sale of real estate. Mr. Newberry donated a part of his wealth for a library to be established in that part of the city and to bear his name. This was done, the present library building having been completed in the nineties.

The early Swedish colony on the north side embraced principally that part bounded on the north by Division street, on the south by Indiana street, on the east by Wells street and on the west by the river. Within these limits their first churches, the Ansgarius Episcopal, the

Immanuel Lutheran, and the Methodist-Episcopal, were built. Little by little, the Swedish people, however, scattered over the entire north side, but before that another rapidly growing Swedish colony had been started on the south side. In a short time there were Swedish settlements in all three of the older divisions of the city, while thousands of Swedes poured into the outlying districts or suburbs that grew up in rapid succession. While none of these suburbs bears a distinctively Swedish stamp, still it is only the plain truth to say that the Swedes have taken a leading part in the work of building them up.

Time and change have long since erased every vestige of the aforesaid island and its "Swedish Town," but to following generations of Swedish-Americans it will always retain an historic interest.

The calamity that befell Chicagoans through the great fire of Oct. 9, 1871, probably fell more heavily on the Swedish inhabitants than on any other nationality, from the fact that these still lived almost exclusively in one locality, that being swept by the flames, while other nationalities, being generally distributed over the whole city, partly escaped. It has been estimated that three-fourths of the Swedes that had established homes up to that time were residing on the north side, principally along Market, Sedgwick, Townsend, Bremer, Wesson and Division streets and North avenue. This whole area was swept by the fiery tornado, and Swedish homes were destroyed by the hundreds. Four Swedish churches, as many newspaper offices and numerous shops and stores owned by Swedes were leveled with the ground. Of the 50,000 people who during the nights following the catastrophe slept out of doors with no protection from the cold but the few garments they had snatched from the flames, probably 10,000 were Swedes. True, they were left under the open sky practically destitute, but all was not lost, for they still possessed the power and the will to work and an unflinching trust in the future. Like all the other fire victims, they took up the task of building a new and greater Chicago on the smoking ruins of the old. By industry and thrift they succeeded after a few years in retrieving their fortunes. An instance of the enterprising spirit of the fire sufferers was given by the members of the Immanuel Swedish Lutheran Church who gathered around the still smoking ruins of their fine, newly built house of worship and, in the name of God, decided to continue work and rebuild the edifice as soon as possible, a resolve all the more sacrificial as the members' own homes were in ashes. So promptly was the resolution carried out that the congregation on Christmas Day, 1872, could worship for the first time in the new edifice which, however, was not fully completed until the winter of 1875.

The total loss sustained by Swedes in the Chicago fire was not far

from one million dollars. Few of them received any insurance money, most of the local insurance companies being forced to the wall. In this and other countries a relief fund of $7,500,000 was raised, but of this only an insignificant share fell to the modest and unobtrusive Swedes, while less numerous but more aggressive nationalities claimed more than their rightful share. The sums that were sent from Sweden for the relief of their countrymen here were designated for the "Scandinavians," and had to be divided in brotherly fashion among Swedes, Norwegians and Danes alike, although the losses sustained by the last two nationalities were not to be compared to those of the thousands of Swedes. Our countrymen, together with other sufferers, were sheltered in hastily built wooden sheds where they endured great hardships during the severe winter of 1871-72, despite the free distribution of coal and provisions. The free building materials placed at the disposal of those who would avail themselves thereof, enabled many of the Swedes to rebuild at once, their new houses being in many instances larger and more commodious than those burned. Thus the Swedish district on the north side was rebuilt in a short time, the inhabitants gradually resuming their former functions in business and daily life.

ORION, HENRY COUNTY

This flourishing little town is the center of a prosperous farming community in Western township, which was organized in the early days of the Bishop Hill Colony. Erik Jansson visited the locality in 1849 and, finding the soil very fertile, determined to locate an auxiliary colony there. Another point in its favor was its location halfway between Bishop Hill and its fishery and nearest trading station on Rock Island. He purchased a tract embracing 1,116 acres. When the colony built its steam power flour mill, the authorities took a loan of $2,000 from Hall & McNeely of St. Louis, offering this property as collateral. The colony failing to meet payments, the mortgage was foreclosed and the land, together with several primitive buildings, was sold at auction in 1851 to satisfy the creditors.

But before Erik Jansson's visit a Swede named John Johnson is said to have lived there, removing to Iowa in the late seventies. When the cholera broke out at Bishop Hill in 1849 many of the colonists sought refuge in this locality, but were pursued by the plague, which raged here with such fury that as many as sixteen persons died in one day. Fifty cholera victims among the refugees lie buried in the southeast corner of section 25, with nothing to mark the place where these pioneers sleep.

One of the earliest permanent settlers was William A. Anderson, who came over in 1851 and died here in 1858. He is said to have been

very helpful and accommodating towards Swedish newcomers. Other pioneers were Anders M. Pettersson, from Södra Vi, Smaland, who arrived in 1852, and N. P. Pettersson.

John Samuelsson was one of the prominent Swedish settlers here. From Vestra Eneby, Östergötland, he came as an immigrant to Andover in 1852. During the Civil War he served for three years in the 43rd Illinois Infantry and was in several battles, including Shiloh and the siege of Vicksburg. With the small savings from his pay as a soldier he made the first payment on a small farm which he purchased and kept adding to and improving until in 1880 it comprised 400 acres, with splendid farm buildings.

Peter Westerlund is another prosperous pioneer settler in these parts. He was born at Hassela, Helsingland, Aug. 10, 1839, emigrated in 1850 and settled at Andover. There he lived for seven years, whereupon he made a trip to Pike's Peak, Colo., with a party in search of gold. From there Westerlund and eleven others started on an adventurous expedition to the southwest without a guide, through a territory without roads or trails. Their vehicles were drawn by oxen. They eventually reached the Rio Grande and followed the river to Albuquerque. Here they sold their oxen, built three boats and, contrary to the advice of the townsmen, started to float down the unexplored waterway, ultimately arriving at El Paso. Up to that time the Rio Grande was supposed to be impassable, one reason given being that it ran through a mountain at a certain point. The intrepid Swedes, however, exploded that tradition.

The town of Orion was founded in 1853 by Charles W. Deane, and at first bore the name of Deanington, which was subsequently changed to Orion. Three years later it got railroad communications and entered upon a new stage of development. Orion has a Swedish Lutheran church, organized in 1870.

According to the census of 1900 the town then had a population of 584. At the close of 1905 the number of Swedish-Americans living in and around Orion was 800, of whom 298 were born in Sweden and 522 in this country.

ST. CHARLES, KANE COUNTY

That part of Illinois now comprising Kane county was first settled by whites in 1833 when a party of colonists from Indiana came there to live. The next year another party arrived from New York, and in 1836 the county was organized and named after Elias K. Kane, who became one of the early United States senators from Illinois.

St. Charles, on the Fox River, was one of the first settlements in the county. In 1834 the place had only six houses, but the following

year the growth of the population necessitated the building of a schoolhouse. In another year a hotel was erected and a bridge was built across the Fox River.

Almost from the first, the Swedes have formed an important, though not the dominating, element of the community. They were there in the latter forties, it being a matter of record that at least three Swedes, viz., Nils Jansson, who ran a turning lathe, and two storekeepers, Björkman and Baker, settled in St. Charles prior to 1849. The latter, who changed his name to Clark, failed in business and then removed to Chicago.

Nils Jansson, who hailed from Hörby, Skåne, emigrated to America in 1830 as a young man. He was a hard drinker and somewhat of an adventurer, having traveled in Mexico and roamed at large over the western continent for some time before settling down here. When the number of Swedes in St. Charles increased, he assumed a sort of guardianship over them, started raising money for a little church and sometimes tried his ability as a preacher, which was none too great. The church was built in 1852, and Swedish clergymen of different denominations, among them Gustaf Unonius, the Episcopal pastor in Chicago, made occasional visits. The wife of Nils Jansson is said to have been a pious woman who often warned her husband to mend his ways. One morning she took him severely to task, pointing out his fate in the hereafter, if he persisted in his sinful course. To this he replied, it is said, that she need not worry about his soul, for half an hour was all he wanted to prepare for death. That same day Nils Jansson was killed by lightning in the country, a short distance from St. Charles. This seems to have occurred in 1850, though the year is not positively known.

The Jonas Andersson from Färila, Helsingland, who is mentioned among the Princeton pioneers, was one of the first Swedes to settle in St. Charles. He came from Chicago in 1849, remaining over winter, and left for Wisconsin in the spring. After a few months, he returned to St. Charles, lived there till 1853, then removed to Princeton.

Such were the beginnings of the Swedish colony in St. Charles. In 1852 several hundred Swedes arrived directly from the old country. Most of the immigrants came from Vestergötland, being persuaded to come by the glowing accounts of St. Charles and surrounding country given in letters from Anders Andersson, a blacksmith and wagonmaker from Timmelhed, who had emigrated in 1847. Some years later he moved to Taylor's Falls, Minn., where he died. He left two daughters, one of whom was married to Daniel Fredin, living near that place, the other to Dr. Erland Carlsson, one of the pioneer clergymen of the Swedish Lutheran Church in America. Other arrivals in 1852 were,

Lars Frän (Frenn) from Timmelhed and his brothers, Sven Thim, and Anders Larsson, and a half-brother, Carl Larsson; the first-named moved to Wayne Station, a few miles from Geneva, after a year, and from there in 1880 to Vasa, Minn., where he died the same year at the age of eighty-one; Thim died in Geneva; Anders Larsson moved to Red Wing, Minn., in 1855 or 1856, and died at Vasa in 1871, fifty-eight years old. Still others were, a shoemaker named Bowman, who served in the Union Army during the war and died several years thereafter; his stepson, P. G. Boman, who moved first to Chicago, then to Rock-



St. Charles—West Main Street

ford; J. Sannquist; Carl Samuelsson and Carl Sjöman from the Timmelhed neighborhood, the former, who was somewhat of a spiritual leader, moving to Elgin, the latter to the neighborhood of McGregor, Ia.; Abram Swensson and his sister, later removed to Hastings, Minn.; Anders Svensson and his brother-in-law Hedelin from Rängedala, Vestergötland, both removing later to Faribault, Minn. Among the early settlers was also one Jonas Håkanson, thought to have moved from there to Rockford.

These immigrants also brought the cholera, the plague having broken out on shipboard and pursuing them to their destination. Had they taken the necessary precautions upon arrival, such as obtaining

clean and airy lodgings, the danger of contagion might have been minimized. Unfortunately, however, few houses were to be had, and the immigrants had to be packed into small and unsanitary rooms that became the hotbeds of the disease. The first case of cholera in St. Charles appeared July 3, the victim being a man. An Irish physician named Crawford, who was called in, advised the immigrants to scatter so as not to give the epidemic a chance to spread to the others, but instead of heeding his counsel, a dozen newcomers occupied a vacant cooper shop, which was turned into a pesthouse, all the occupants being attacked by the epidemic. Immigrants living elsewhere in the place also were taken sick. Dr. Crawford and a volunteer nurse were at the bedsides of the plague victims night and day for one whole week, exerting their utmost power to save the stricken ones. Meanwhile the contagion spread among the older settlers, five of whom died. Among the immigrants the plague at this first outbreak claimed ten lives.

At length the local authorities awoke to the necessity of strenuous and systematic measures to check the ravages of the disease. For that purpose a temporary hospital was hastily erected of boards at a healthy and picturesque spot in the woods north of St. Charles. Several women volunteered as nurses and provided everything needed for the patients. But despite the best efforts of the community the epidemic was not checked until seventy-five persons had succumbed.

A small party of Swedes came to St. Charles in 1853, including Peter Lundgren, from Bottnaryd, Småland, John Carlsson, from Askeryd, in the same province, Peter Lundquist, Fredrik Pettersson, and August Nord. Lundquist afterwards removed to Rockford and Pettersson to Nebraska. In the surrounding country a number of Swedes early settled down as farmers.

In 1853 a Swedish Lutheran congregation was organized in St. Charles, but its growth was deterred by litigation over the question of ownership of the aforesaid church. An Irishman named Marvin took almost forcible possession of the edifice in settlement of claims against the congregation, so that when its members came to celebrate early mass on Christmas morning, 1854, they found the doors of the little church tightly nailed up. One of the intending worshipers, named Jonas Magnusson, broke open the door and let the people in. When the congregation came to worship on Easter Sunday the following year they discovered that the edifice had been moved away on rollers, and from that time Marvin seems to have had undisputed possession.

From this time until 1882 the Swedish Lutherans in St. Charles worshiped together with their brethren in Geneva. That year a new

congregation was organized in St. Charles, and a church was built the following year. During 1905 a new and larger edifice was erected.

As early as 1853 S. B. Newman, a Methodist clergyman, organized a small Swedish class in St. Charles, which soon disbanded owing to the prevailing hostility to Methodism among the Swedish settlers. Again in 1890 the Methodists began work, resulting in the organization of a small congregation. A church edifice was erected in 1904.

During the last two decades the Swedish population of St. Charles has slowly but steadily grown, partly by immigration from Sweden, but principally from people moving in from other localities. At the close of 1905 they numbered about 1,500, out of a total population of 2,675.

KNOXVILLE, KNOX COUNTY

Knoxville is the oldest town in Knox County, having been founded in 1831. During the first two years of its existence the place was known as Henderson. For many years it was the county seat until the more prosperous city of Galesburg laid claim to the honor. A bitter fight ensued, Knoxville vigorously defending the right once granted, while Galesburg claimed it as the prerogative of the principal city in the county and was ultimately victorious. One day in 1873, the question having been settled, the archives of the county were removed to Galesburg, where they have since remained. In the fight for the county seat none took a more active part than Sven Pettersson of Knoxville, who sacrificed both time and money in behalf of Knoxville as the seat of the county government. The part played by the liquor traffic in the rivalry between the two communities is described under the head of Galesburg.

Prior to 1849, there were no Swedes in Knoxville, but that year several located there, among whom were two shoemakers, Adolf Andersson and one Boström. The latter left in 1850, Andersson remaining until 1853. Simultaneous with these two were other settlers, among whom one Tinglöf with his family, Kristian Johnson, A. Bergquist, a farmer, and Trued Persson, a schoolmaster from Stoby, Skåne, known as Granville among the Americans of Knoxville and Galesburg. He removed to Vasa, Minn., in November, 1855, where he attained prominence, was elected to the state legislature and held other positions of trust. He died there Dec. 27, 1905. One Daniel J. Ockerson came to Knoxville in 1851, went to California in 1859 and removed to Red Oak, Ia., in 1880. The same year Ockerson came, John Gottrich located in Knoxville and in 1880 was the only one of the early Swedish settlers still living there. The aforesaid Sven Pettersson arrived in 1852 as did a considerable number of Swedes. The influx was steadily on the

increase, and in 1854 the Swedes formed a considerable part of the population.

That year the cholera broke out in Knoxville, its ravages being mostly confined to the Swedes, forty of whom died of the pestilence. The fact that the Americans generally escaped is attributed to their more sanitary dwellings. As poor immigrants, the Swedes, on the contrary, had to be satisfied with little stuffy huts; besides, they were unaccustomed to the climate and did not know how to accommodate their diet to the circumstances. The lack of proper sheltering resulted



Knoxville Street Scene

from the lack of money, for while there was plenty of work to be had, the pay was usually in the form of cows, calves, sheep and pigs.

For a period of about twenty years, from 1852, there was a rapid increase of the Swedish population. But in the latter seventies came a stagnation which has continued to this day. The descendants of the old pioneers, as also the Swedes who have located there in later years, are generally prosperous and belong to the best portion of the Swedish population of the state. During the Civil War the Knoxville Swedes displayed their great loyalty to the flag by enlisting to the number of forty to fight for the perpetuation of the Union.

The city has a Swedish Lutheran church, one of the oldest in the state, founded in 1854. In Knoxville there was printed, in December, 1854, the first issue of "Gamla och Nya Hemlandet," the oldest Swedish newspaper in the West and the next oldest in the United States. The first number was dated Jan. 3, 1855.

From 1873 to 1885, Knoxville had a Swedish institution of learn-

ing, the Ansgarius College, owned and controlled by the Ansgarius Synod. The total population of Knoxville in 1900 was 1,857. The number of Swedes cannot be precisely stated. The membership of the Swedish Lutheran Church at the beginning of the year 1905 was 280, and the total number of Swedes in the city will not exceed 850.

WATAGA, KNOX COUNTY

The little town of Wataga is situated in Sparta township, its first white inhabitant having been Hezekiah Buford, who located there in 1834. Two years later came three brothers, Cyrus, Levy and Reuben Robbins, who planted a grove of shade-trees and a large orchard, known as Robbin's Grove.

The first Swedish settlers arrived in 1849. They were: Lars Olsson, with family, from Bollnäs, Helsingland; Peter Ericksson, with wife and two sisters-in-law, from Alfta, Helsingland; Olof Pålsson and Anders Danielsson from Ockelbo, Gestrikland. The first named died in 1864, having lived long enough to reap the fruits of his labors as a pioneer. One of his sons, Wm. H. Olson enlisted as a volunteer in Company I, 102nd Illinois Infantry on Aug. 9, 1862. He was soon promoted to corporal and died March 26, 1865, from wounds received in battle. His brother, L. W. Olson, died in 1907. In 1880 he was a member of the firm of Olson and Bergman. Two of his sisters were also living at that time. Peter Ericksson, his wife and one of her sisters after a few years moved to Bishop Hill, where all died prior to 1880. Olof Pålsson moved first to Minnesota and then to Kansas. Anders Danielsson was still living in Wataga in the early eighties.

In 1850 N. J. Lindbeck came over from Ockelbo and settled two miles east of Wataga; also Jonas Pettersson and his wife from Alfta, the Williamson family from Jerfsö, Helsingland, and Lars Williams from Ljusdal, in the same province. Lindbeck left after nine months' stay, subsequently moving from one place to another, finally settling at Victoria, where he was still living in 1880. Jonas Pettersson died after a few years, but his widow and children, two sons and three daughters, were still living there in 1880. The head of the Williamson family died in 1885. His five sons all became prominent citizens in their respective communities. William Williamson went to farming on a large scale near Wataga, owning over 400 acres of land in 1880, a general merchandise store in Galesburg and a large interest in the grocery store of Nelson Chester & Co., in Moline. Jonas Williamson at that time also owned a large farm near Wataga. The third brother, Peter Williamson, had a valuable farm in Lucas county, Ia. The fourth, John Williamson in 1862 enlisted in Company K, 83rd Illinois Infantry, was wounded and received honorable discharge the following year.

dying shortly after his return home. Moses O. Williamson, the fifth of the brothers, born on the Atlantic during the voyage of the family to America, began his career as a harness-maker and later devoted himself to politics, rising from one position to another until elected to the office of state treasurer. After serving one term, 1901-1904, he retired from public life and established himself in business in Galesburg where he has resided for a long period. A sister of the Williamson brothers married W. C. Olson, who, after many years' residence in Wataga, where he held several public offices, removed to Wakeeney, Kans., some time in the seventies.

Wataga was founded in 1855 by an American by the name of J. M. Holyoke and a Swede named A. P. Cassel, who jointly established a general merchandise store. The next year the place got a railway station and a hotel. Rich coal veins were early discovered in this vicinity and the work of mining began forthwith. The coal mining industry was at its height here about the middle of the fifties, when the mines employed 250 workingmen; after that it declined, causing the floating population, a large percentage being Swedish laborers, to drift away to other localities. Those of the Swedes who had been able to purchase land remained, as a rule, and in time became well-to-do. A few engaged in business with uniform success.

A Swedish Lutheran church was organized here in 1856 and a Swedish Methodist church the year following. Neither church is numerically strong, the former numbering 245 and the latter only 26 members. In 1900 Wataga had 545 inhabitants. The percentage of Swedish-Americans in the town and the surrounding country can only be conjectured.

SWEDONA, MERCER COUNTY

The town of Swedona was first known as Berlin. It is situated on a plateau commanding a view of the plains stretching to the south and drained by the Edward's Creek. The growth of Swedona was stunted from the first by the lack of railway communication. New Windsor, Lynn and other neighboring towns developed at its expense, a number of houses being moved from Swedona to these places. No other factors requisite to development having since came into existence, the place is still but a small village. The country around is populous with successful farmers, largely Swedes.

The first Swede in Swedona, undoubtedly, was Nils Magnus Kihlberg from Kisa, Östergötland, who came over with a party of 300 emigrants on board the sailing vessel "Charles Tottie," in the summer of 1849, after a seven weeks' voyage from Göteborg to New York. Their original destination was New Sweden, Ia., where Peter Cassel

had settled, but the cholera and other diseases crossed their purpose and compelled them to stop in Andover and vicinity. Late in the autumn, Kihlberg started for New Sweden, but while in Rock Island awaiting a boat for Burlington he changed his mind and returned to Andover. Shortly afterwards he located at Swedona with his family, consisting of wife and three sons. In 1880 Kihlberg and his wife were still living. The year following the arrival of Kihlberg, other Swedes settled here. They were Gustaf Larsson and Anders Samuelsson from Sund, Östergötland, the former with wife and three daughters. Larsson died in the seventies. Samuelsson later removed to the vicinity of Cambridge, Henry county. In 1857 still another family was added, that of Peter Magnusson from Ydre, Östergötland, with wife and five children. Magnusson died late in the seventies; one of his sons became one of the most prominent farmers in the locality, and two daughters successively married Rev. L. P. Esbjörn.

After 1870, parties of immigrants, mostly from Småland, began to arrive and settle in Swedona. The largest influx seems to have occurred in 1865, or thereabouts, when a number of fairly well-to-do families arrived and made extensive land purchases in the neighborhood.

The Swedish Methodists were on the ground as early as 1855, when a mission was established, but not until 1863 did the congregation get its own pastor.

The Swedish Lutheran Church in Swedona was founded in 1859. Among its early pastors was Rev. A. Andreen, one of the pioneers of the Augustana Synod, and father of Gustav Andreen, president of Augustana College, and Revs. Philip and Alexis Andreen, all ministers of the Augustana Synod.

While Swedona had a population of 111, the Swedish Lutheran Church there numbered 490 at the close of 1905, the majority living in Cable and Sherrard and in the country roundabout Swedona. The Swedish Methodists are 36 in number, some living in New Windsor. In the Swedona neighborhood there were in 1905 approximately 250 people without church connections.

ALTONA, HENRY COUNTY

The first white man in Altona was John Thompson, who came there in 1836. His nearest white neighbor was living in Franker's Grove, eleven miles away. After a few years a number of Mormons located in the neighborhood. Joseph Smith, their prophet, had had a revelation to the effect that here an auxiliary colony of the Latter Day Saints was to be founded, the principal one being at Nauvoo. The branch colony numbered about one hundred persons. The neighbors

having given the Mormons due notice that they could not count on security of life and property, the prophet had another revelation with orders to the branch colony to reunite with the main body at Nauvoo, which was done.

The first schoolhouse in this vicinity was built in 1841. When the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railway was built through this locality one J. B. Chambers, who furnished the railroad laborers with provisions, built a store on the present site of Altona, which was subsequently platted in 1854 by the heirs of John Thompson, who named the place La Pier, the name of Altona dating from 1863.



Altona—Main Street

The first Swede to settle here was Anders Snygg from Bergsjö, Helsingland, with wife and four children. The family had emigrated in 1849 and settled in Victoria. The year following Snygg bought 40 acres of land three-quarters of a mile north of Altona and moved there with his family. Shortly after the removal, Snygg was taken sick and, after a lingering disease of five years' duration, died. His widow was still living in 1880, at the age of seventy. One son, Anders Peter Snygg, was then living in Dayton, Ia., one daughter was married and lived in Des Moines, and another daughter was married to an American by the name of Shade, in Oneida, Ill.

The first Swedes to settle in Altona next after Snygg were P. Petterson and his brother G. A. Ericksson from Djursdala, Smaland. The former had been living for some years in Moline, where he was farming for a time and then engaged in business. These men, who

located here in 1850, proved very enterprising, their first concern after arrival being to erect a combined flour mill, sawmill and planing mill run by steam. A little later they built a blacksmith shop, a wagon shop and a cooper shop. Not satisfied with this, they started a large general store, which supplied the neighborhood with all the necessaries. After nine years Ericksson moved to Iowa. His brother Petterson continued all the various lines of business until 1862, when he sold the flour mill to Olof Andersson, shortly afterwards rejoining his brother in Iowa. One Anders Johnson for a time had charge of the wagon shop, which was subsequently removed to Andover. One A. M. Lönner, who later removed to Andover, was bookkeeper for the Petterson brother and Ericksson from 1853 to 1859.

Another early Swedish settler in Altona was Nils J. Lindback, who came in 1854, remaining only a few years and then moving to a farm east of Victoria. The marriage interdict in effect in Bishop Hill at this time caused many young people to desert that colony and settle in surrounding places, including Altona. Among the Erik Janssonists who located in Altona in 1855 were Erik Lindvall and his wife Helena, John Söderström and his wife Louisa, Erik Hart, Hans Lindgren, John Granat and G. E. Rodeen. This party at first engaged in brickmaking near Altona. The two married couples made their homes in Altona proper. In 1858 Lindvall got work in a flour mill, very likely that of Petterson and Eriksson, and afterwards established a wagon shop, which he conducted so successfully that it made him wealthy in a modest way. Söderström for some years had owned and operated a brick yard west of Altona, then moved to the Galva neighborhood and rented a farm, still later removing to Osage county, Kansas, where he was living for many years as one of the most prosperous farmers of the state. Erik Hast went to California; Hans Lindgren moved to a farm near Ulah, Henry county; John Granat went to Galesburg, where he was still living as late as 1880, and G. E. Rodeen died in the Civil War, while serving in Company D, 57th Illinois Infantry.

In 1858 Mr. and Mrs. Youngström moved to Altona from Pleasant Hill, Ky., where they had belonged for a few years to the Shaker sect, after leaving Bishop Hill in 1854. Youngström still lived in Altona in 1880.

The first Swedish church in Altona was the Lutheran, organized in 1854. In the sixties its membership grew very large, but in the seventies a general exodus to the West caused a material decrease which, however, has been more than outweighed by normal growth in the later decades.

A Swedish Baptist church was founded in 1858, and is still extant, according to the records of the denomination, but no statistics are

therein given. This church also lost members during the emigration farther westward. In 1887 a Swedish Mission church was organized, but meeting with no success, the little flock soon disbanded.

In the Altona country district there was an early influx of Swedish farmers. The first was George Chalman, who came in 1851 or 1852, and was still living in 1880. Other of the earliest settlers were Peter Newberg, Nils Hedström, L. Carlsson, E. Kraus, P. Olsson and Georg Eriksson. Shortly after 1860 a considerable number of Swedes settled to the north and northwest of Altona.

In 1905 the Swedish Lutheran Church in Altona numbered 450 out of a total Swedish population of 700. Altona's total population was 633 in 1900.

ROCKFORD, WINNEBAGO COUNTY

That portion of the state which is now Winnebago county was, like the whole northern part of Illinois, little known to the whites prior to the Black Hawk War of 1832. The first spot in this territory settled by whites was Galena, then named La Pointe. One Col. Johnson from Kentucky came there in 1824 with a number of miners and opened a coal mine about a mile from the present site of the city. The enterprise proved very successful and when the news spread hundreds, not to say thousands, in 1826-7 flocked there from all parts of Illinois and neighboring states to seek work in the coal mines.

Partly in this way, partly through those who fought in the Black Hawk War, which extended to these parts, the Rock River valley was made known. One of the first white men who set foot on the present site of Rockford was Ira Parker, who came in 1824 with a party of landseekers from Terre Haute, Ind. On their way to Galena, they crossed the Rock River here and at this point found an Indian village with 300 to 400 inhabitants. Only the women and children and a few of the men were found at home, all the others being on the war path. The hills on both sides of the river were covered with thick timber and in the valleys the grass grew to a man's height. The scenery that met the party of whites at this point was inviting and highly picturesque.

But Ira Parker and his party were not the only whites who visited this place before the settlement of Rockford began. Shortly after the Black Hawk War, Abraham Lincoln, possibly in the capacity of surveyor, and a party of government officials camped on the Rock River at this point, and he afterwards said that both he and the party were charmed with the natural beauty of the locality.

In the summer of 1833, one John Phelps resolved to explore the Rock River valley throughout. Accompanied by a Frenchman, he left Mineral Point in a canoe and made a stop on the present site of the

city. One of the explorers was in favor of settling on the spot at once, but there being no building material at hand, they proceeded on their way down stream. These two men became the first white settlers at Oregon, in Ogle county.

Several years before Phelps made his tour down the river, the first white had settled in Winnebago county and built a cabin one and one-half miles from the mouth of the Pecatonica River, at a point afterwards known as Bird's Grove. This man was Stephen Mack, a son of an ex-officer in the army who lived in the East and carried on an extensive fur trade. Stephen Mack was born in Vermont, where he received his early education, afterwards entering Dartmouth College at Hanover, N. H. Being a roysterer to whom discipline was irksome, he soon left for home. His father then sent him to the West to superintend his fur trade there. One day while alone in his cabin, he was attacked by Winnebago Indians, and left for dead. He would doubtless have perished, had not the daughter of Chief Ho-no-ne-gah remained and given him the most tender care. She afterward became his wife and bore him four sons and four daughters. Two of the daughters later attended the Rockford Seminary, but their wild disposition and their hatred of the whites soon caused their dismissal from the institution. They then rejoined the Winnebago tribe which had been compelled to withdraw to Minnesota.

Stephen Mack was a tall, stately looking man with the air and manner of the man of the world. His Indian wife died in 1847. The following year he was married to a white woman. She was addicted to drink and made life miserable for her husband. One day, while under the influence of liquor, she set fire to their cabin, which was partially destroyed. These sorrows and perplexities proved too much for Mack, who was laid on a sickbed from which he never arose. He was buried side by side with his first wife in a spot near his cabin.

Among the early settlers here we find Germanicus Rent from Alabama, Thatcher Blake from Maine and Daniel Haight, who lived on what is now known as the east side. A dam constructed across the river by Rent was swept away in January, 1835, but rebuilt the following July. At that time there were only eleven persons living in Midway, as the place was called on account of its location half-way between Chicago and Galena. By fall the number had increased to twenty-seven. Ephraim Wyman, born in Lancaster, Mass., in 1809 was one of the early settlers, coming here Sept. 21, 1835. In the woods on the east side of the river there were living about 750 Pottawatomie Indians and on the Pecatonica River about 700 Winnebagoes. Fortunately for the settlers, these redskins were very quiet and peaceable. The nearest garrison was at Fort Winnebago on the Fox River, in

Wisconsin, and from there assistance could not have been dispatched in time to protect the whites in the event of an uprising.

The number of settlers steadily increased, and in 1836 they were sufficiently numerous to organize the county, which was named Winnebago after the neighboring Indian tribe. For some time afterward, the settlers were subject to hardships and dangers of frontier life here as elsewhere in the western wilderness. A band of outlaws, known as the "Red Robbers," or "Prairie Bandits," operated in these parts from 1836 to 1839, striking terror to the settlers and making the neighborhood generally unsafe. Robberies and other flagrant crimes were of frequent occurrence, travelers between Midway and Galena being especially exposed to outlawry.

The first merchandise store in Rockford was opened by John E. Vance on the east side of the river, not far from the spot where the railway station now stands. Shortly afterward, E. H. Potter and one Preston opened a store in a frame building near the present corner of State and Main streets. These were soon followed by others, mostly located on the east side. Year by year business grew, and in 1848 a bank named the Winnebago Bank was established by the firm of Robertson, Holland and Coleman. Two years later, or only about sixteen years after the arrival of the first white settlers, the place had 1,500 inhabitants, and in the next three years this number was trebled, owing doubtless to the completion to Rockford of the Chicago and Galena Railway, now a part of the Northwestern system. Realty values rose rapidly. A new and larger dam was constructed across the Rock River in the fifties for the generation of water power for mechanical purposes. A couple of saw mills were the first industrial establishments, but gradually various small factories grew up—the modest forerunners of the big industrial plants of modern Rockford. During the first few years the inhabitants wishing to cross the Rock River generally forded the stream, entailing many accidental drownings. Fatalities were not materially decreased by the subsequent system of ferrying. When a bridge was built in 1840 the river could be crossed with some degree of safety, but this bridge was far from satisfactory. The structure was a rickety affair that undulated like thin ice under the feet of passengers and sagged like a hammock under heavier weight. In spite of constant threats to give way, it stood all tests until replaced by a more substantial wooden structure, which in turn gave way to a modern steel bridge.

In 1880 the city had 13,129 inhabitants; in 1890 the number had grown to 23,584 and in 1900 to 31,051. In the last named year the city had 246 industrial establishments of different kinds, with an aggregate capitalization of $7,715,069, 5,223 workingmen and an annual produc-

tion valued at $8,888,904. The chief products of the Rockford industries are furniture, hosiery, agricultural implements, pianos, sewing machines and machinery and tools. Secondary in order are, paper, flour, grape sugar, matches, plated ware, etc.

To the Swedish-Americans it is a satisfaction to know that of all foreign nationalities represented in Rockford the Swedes have had the greatest share in the rapid development of the city industrially, commercially and otherwise. It is even a question whether they have not surpassed the native Americans in these respects. All the way from the early fifties, Swedes have been living here. During the last three



Rockford River View

decades they have formed the pith of the working population in the city, and from twenty years back the Swedish-Americans constitute a considerable percentage of the manufacturers and businessmen of Rockford. Industrious and thrifty as a rule, they have generally worked in the employ of others until acquiring a competence, when they have combined into co-operative companies for the purpose of furniture manufacture or carrying on other lines of industry, thereby becoming employers and themselves reaping the profits. Wide-awake and intelligent, as they are, they have made many practical inventions, thereby simplifying processes, reducing the cost of production and increasing the efficiency of labor and machinery. Naturally saving and provident, they have established a building and loan association whereby many have become the owners of comfortable homes. A number of sick benefit and funeral aid societies have been organized, lending economical assistance of no mean importance to families suddenly stricken by misfortune.

The spiritual care of the Rockford Swedes is well provided for. Religious work has been carried on among them ever since pioneer days, and there are now no less than half a dozen Swedish churches, most of these having a large membership and owning valuable property.

They have always evinced a live interest in educational work and given liberal support both to the purely American schools and the specifically Swedish-American institutions of learning. Many are the Swedish young men from Rockford who, after completing the prescribed courses, have entered the service of the church or devoted themselves to the teacher's calling or the learned professions. Several Swedish newspapers have been published in Rockford at different periods. Swedish song is here cultivated with as much zest as anywhere in the United States. Although not a Swedish-American center of culture in the same sense as Chicago, Minneapolis, New York, and Rock Island, yet Rockford is an eminent factor for Swedish-American progress. Its Swedish colony is more homogeneous than most similar communities, making the Swedish characteristics more pronounced here than elsewhere.

In 1854 the Swedes of Rockford numbered approximately 1,000, in 1862 about 2,000, ten years later about 3,500, and in 1885 about 6,000. At the close of 1905, their estimated number was 16,000. Assuming that the total population increased in the five years of 1901-5 in the same ratio as in the foregoing census period, the Swedes of Rockford would now constitute nearly half the population.

After taking this general survey, we will review the story of the Swedish pioneer settlers of Rockford. About 1852 the first Swedish settlers came here. When John Nelson from Kärrakra, Vestergötland, subsequent inventor of a celebrated knitting machine, came to Rockford from St. Charles that year, he found ahead of him a few Swedish families and single men who had arrived shortly before. Among these were Abraham Andersson with his family and a young man named Clark, possibly the same person mentioned in the early history of St. Charles. Anderson soon left for Minnesota, and Nelson removed to Elgin a few months later, and from there to Chicago in the spring of 1853. The following autumn he formed the acquaintance of Erik Norelius, then a divinity student, lived together with him for several months and attended the private English school taught by him in the winter of 1854. The same year Nelson returned to Rockford, accompanied by Anders Johnson who later removed to New Mexico, where he lived for many years.

During Nelson's absence from Rockford in 1853 a number of Swedes had moved in, including the following: Sven August Johnson

from Ving, Vestergötland, who came over in 1852 and subsequently became a prominent business man of Rockford where he is still living, loved and honored by all; C. J. Carlsson, a tailor, and P. Pettersson, with their families, both from Ving; Peter Johansson, or Johnson, and two men, Lindgren and Lundbeck, both from Vestergötland, who died as pioneer settlers in Minnesota; Jonas Larsson and Johan Sparf, with families, both from Ölmestad, Småland; Isak Pettersson, a tailor from Bellö, Småland, all of whom came in one party from the old country.

The Rockford pioneers were beset with the customary trials and hardships on their way to the new country and after their arrival. According to the story told by Jonas Larsson, they left Göteborg in a small, filthy sailing vessel, in which the emigrants were packed together in most uncomfortable quarters. A terrific storm at sea still further aggravated their misfortune, tossing the little vessel about on giant waves, momentarily threatening to swallow up the frail craft. The ship took the route north of Scotland, and the captain asserted that he had never encountered so heavy seas during thirty years of sailing. The ship was driven toward the coast of Ireland, apparently doomed to imminent destruction. So great was the despair on board that the cook ceased to prepare and serve food to the passengers. When they complained, they got the grewsome reply: "You have no further need of food: by tomorrow morning we will all be at the bottom of the sea." There was nothing to do but prepare for death. But the storm subsided, providentially averting shipwreck, and after a voyage of five weeks the ship made port at Cork, Ireland. Here the passengers were detained for two and one-half months while the ship was lightened and repaired. Then they set out anew, on an equally stormy voyage, reaching the American coast after another ten weeks spent on the ocean.

Ultimately the party reached Rockford in the fall, after a journey lasting six months; but even then their hardships were not at an end. Poor food, still poorer dwellings, sickness and lack of work prolonged their misery. Wages were very low, ranging from 25 cents to 50 cents per day. Fortunately, however, the price of commodities was cheap, butter selling at 5 cents per pound, and meat at 3 to 4 cents. Single men could obtain board for $1.50 per week. Even bibulousness was not an expensive habit in those days, when whisky was to be had at 15 cents per gallon.

Larsson and Sparf with their families secured common lodgings at North Second street, near the present public square, at a rental of $3 per month. Larsson went south that fall in search of better employment, but returned in a few months and remained in Rockford. About 1890, he was engaged by the Zion Swedish Lutheran Church as

parochial school teacher. Johan Sparf, after living in Rockford for some time, purchased a farm near Davis Junction, where he suffered from crop failures, but ultimately bettered his condition and in 1868 bought a second farm at Cherry Valley, seven miles from Rockford. Now everything went well, and about 1885 Sparf was considered one of the most prosperous farmers of Winnebago county. He died in the nineties.

During the years of 1854-5 many Swedes came to Rockford directly from their native land, others after a brief stay in Chicago. Among others we mention the following: Johannes Anderson, shoemaker, arrived from Chicago in 1854; John Erlander, tailor, arrived



Rockford River Front

in Rockford in 1855, having emigrated from Slätthög, Smaland, the year prior; Peter Lindahl, later a grain dealer; A. P. Petterson, a mechanic, from Vadstena; G. Bergquist, painter, and Gustaf Berglund, dyer, both from Vermland; the former remained in Rockford, the latter removed first to Norwegian Lake, Minn., thence to Water Valley, Miss., where he engaged in manufacture; Anders Hedin, hatter, and Edvard Wallborg, both from Vermland, who accompanied Berglund to Minnesota and from there to Mississippi, where Wallborg was drafted for service in the Confederate army, but escaped to Chicago, going from there to Beloit, Wis., where he died; Gustaf Scott, Johan Abrahamsson and A. Johnson, all of whom removed elsewhere; Adolf Andersson, who lost his life in the war; Peter Hakansson, shoemaker, died in 1880; A. C. Johnson from Törneryd, Blekinge, who came to St. Charles in 1854 and to Rockford the following year, becoming the pioneer furniture manufacturer of the city; Gustaf Lundgren from

Småland and Isak Lindgren, who removed to Andover, still living there in 1880.

In the fifties Rockford, like Chicago, was a stopping-place for Swedish immigrants going west to buy land and establish homes. This was especially the case in the years 1852 to 1856. The greatest influx of Swedes to Rockford occurred in the decade of 1856-66.

Here, as elsewhere, the immigrants were subject to disease, chiefly the cholera, which claimed most of its victims in 1854. A few examples of the ravages of this messenger of death may be here noted. At this time Inga Christina Persson from Vernamo, who later married John Erlander, was a domestic in an American family. One day she saw a cholera victim carried past the house on the way to the grave. It was the body of her own mother. She had not been notified of her death for fear that she would hasten to the deathbed, contract the disease and spread it to others. Her father also died of the plague about the same time, no notice being given the daughter, who learned of his death accidentally, when a friend called to express her sympathies for the orphaned girl. The daughter herself had a slight attack of the cholera, from which she soon rallied. Johannes Andersson, the aforesaid shoemaker, one morning visited a woman engaged in doing the family washing. That very evening he was requested to order a casket for her, she having been suddenly stricken down by the pestilence. An aged immigrant one day brought home a piece of pork and placed it in the frying-pan, with the remark: "Now that we are in America, I reckon we'll have some pork." That was his last meal. The next morning he was carried to the grave, having died of cholera in the night.

Fortunately there were in the city many charitable people whose hearts went out to the sick and the suffering. Among those who in this dark hour showed themselves most sympathetic and self-sacrificing, Sven August Johnson, John Nelson and Clark, then young men, deserve special mention. Among the Swedish settlers, they were the most proficient in the English language. Without fear of contagion, they went from house to house, bringing help and comfort to their stricken countrymen. Clark is said to have solicited means among the Americans for the support of the sick and the destitute. The Americans, too, showed great kindness toward the unfortunate newcomers. An old schoolhouse, situated near the present public square on the east side, was turned into an emergency hospital, and one Col. Marsh had a barn adapted to the same purpose.

Along in the late autumn of 1854 the epidemic began to subside, and conditions generally improved. Though nearly all poor, the Swedes were industrious and saving, enabling them not only to earn a bare

living, but to lay by something for future use. By their capacity for work and their integrity they soon gained the full confidence of their American neighbors.

At first the Swedish settlers had no means of common worship in their mother tongue, but this want was supplied without great delay. The first Swedish preacher to visit Rockford was doubtless Gustaf Unonius of Chicago, but the year is not known. Most probably his visit took place in the late summer of 1852, for in September of that year he took a trip to Minnesota and very likely went by way of Rockford.

The first Christmas matin services celebrated by the Swedes of Rockford were described by survivors in the eighties as having been



Rockford—Seventh Street

extremely impressive. There was no house of worship, where the gospel was preached in the Swedish language, no bells chiming out the hour of worship, yet the settlers desired to celebrate the "julotta" as best they could. Before daylight, a little company of them gathered in a small cabin, where a Christmas tree had been provided and tallow candles placed in the windows. The order of worship was gone through somehow, but simple and unassuming as was this service, it made so powerful an impression on those present that at its conclusion they embraced one another amid tears. The solemnity of the occasion forcibly brought home to them the fact that they were children of a common land and a common faith.

In October, 1853, Rev. Erland Carlsson made his first visit to Rockford and formed the acquaintance of the Swedish settlers there. He returned the following January and then organized the congregation known as the First Swedish Lutheran Church of Rockford, now one of

the largest Swedish churches in the United States. In 1882 members who left this church organized another, the Emanuel Church, which uses the English language in its public worship and for some time belonged to the English Lutheran General Synod, but is now a part of the Swedish Augustana Synod. In 1883 there was a second withdrawal from the First Church to form another Swedish congregation, named the Zion Church.

About 1854 or 1855 a Methodist preacher by the name of P. Challman visited Rockford, preaching to his countrymen there. S. B. Newman, another Methodist preacher, also made a visit, forming a class, which, however, disbanded shortly after. Not until 1861 was a permanent Swedish Methodist church organized.

In 1875 the Mission Friends of Rockford had become sufficiently numerous to form a congregation of their own. Still later the Free Mission Church was added, and in 1880 the Swedish Baptist Church. The independent Swedish Evangelical Church, which was founded in 1882, dissolved after a few years.

Among the Swedish population of Rockford a large number of fraternal societies and lodges have sprung up in the course of years.

It is but natural that the energetic and aggressive Swedish people of Rockford should play an influential part in local and state politics, and a number of them should attain to high positions of public trust, as numerous instances have shown.

GENEVA, KANE COUNTY

The city of Geneva is situated in the township of the same name, only two miles from Batavia and the same distance from St. Charles, the three cities being of nearly the same age. In 1836 a party of colonists from the East settled on the site of Geneva. The year after, a town site was laid out and the first courthouse was built. The first bridge across the Fox River was constructed in 1836, the year of first settlement.

Swedes came to Geneva somewhat later than to St. Charles. When the first Swede settled here is not known, but in 1832 several came here, viz., D. Lindström, who later removed to Paxton, his son John P. Lindström, who removed to Moline, and his grandson, A. P. Lindström, who became a minister of the Augustana Synod and died in 1895. These came from Böne, Vestergötland. In 1854 the following Swedes were living in Geneva: G. Lindgren, Samuel Pettersson, who subsequently removed to Aurora; John Ryström, removed to Oregon, Ill.; Göran Svensson, removed to DeKalb; Gustaf Pettersson, removed to Chicago; B. Kindblad and A. P. Andersson, who located in Batavia later; Julius Esping, an anchor smith, who removed later to Fremont,

Kans.; Carl Samuelsson and Sven Andersson, both subsequently removed to Elgin; Ericksson and C. P. Grönberg, removed to Watertown, Wis.; Jonas M. Pettersson, removed to Galesburg, and Olof Svensson, who remained in Geneva to his death.

In 1880 John Pettersson was the oldest living Swedish inhabitant of Geneva. He came over in 1854 from Gällaryd, Smaland, and spent several years in Chicago, working at the shoemaker's trade. In 1856 he came to Geneva, establishing himself as a shoemaker, with a branch shop at St. Charles. After seven years on the shoemaker's bench, he tired of the awl and last, and changed to the watchmaker's trade.



Geneva State Street

In 1853 a Swedish Lutheran church was organized in Geneva. Not long afterward, a parochial school was opened to give the children religious instruction in their mother tongue. The first schoolmaster was John Pehrson, subsequently a clergyman in the Augustana Synod. He was succeeded by M. Munter, a schoolmaster of the olden type from Sweden, who flogged his pupils mercilessly for every offense, while his ability to impart instruction was questionable. The interest he took in the work of teaching may be illustrated with the following incident of Swedish-American pioneer life. One day the schoolmaster, wishing to kill a sheep, brought the animal with him to the schoolroom and then and there, before the eyes of the pupils, went through the uncanny process of butchering and quartering the sheep, all the while continuing to hear the classes in a perfunctory manner. This same Munter later went to Wapello county, Ia., where he became one of the founders of a settlement named after him Munterville. There he died some time

in the eighties. About 1870 a Swedish Methodist church was organized in Geneva, and in 1894 a Swedish Baptist church.

During the last twenty or thirty years Swedes in large numbers have moved into Geneva and the neighboring cities on the Fox River. The Swedes of Geneva in 1905 were estimated at 1,200, the enumeration of 1900 giving a total population of 2,446.

GENESEO, HENRY COUNTY

Like Andover, Geneseo was founded by American colonizers from the state of New York, with headquarters at Genesee, from which place the new settlement was named. In 1836 a company sent three men west to look up a locality suitable for a settlement, and this was the choice of the emissaries. A tract of land, embracing the present site of Geneseo, was purchased, whereupon the committee returned home to report the results of their expedition. Fifty settlers immediately started for the new colony site, arriving in the middle of winter, subject to many hardships. Two thousand acres of land were bought up and parceled out among the settlers, who provided their own dwellings according to their means. In the spring they began tilling the soil, gathering their first harvests the following summer and fall.

Geneseo dates back to 1837, when the first houses were erected there. The place did not receive a postoffice until 1839. Its growth was slow until 1853, when the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railway was built through the place, stimulating a more rapid development for the next few years.

In the early fifties Swedes began settling in Geneseo. In 1852 John Gustus, Lewis Johnson and Carl Johnson were living there The first named, who was from Opphem, Östergötland, first had a shoemaker's shop, then opened a store, and in 1862 sold this business to N. P. Rosenstone. In the late seventies he removed to Iowa, where he was not particularly favored by fortune. Lewis Johnson came from Småland and Carl Johnson from Vermland; the latter settled on a farm just outside the town.

In 1853 Lars Jönsson came over from Skärstad, Småland, and bought a farm of 80 acres north of Green River. Carl Toline, who served as a volunteer in Company D, 57th Illinois Infantry, was among the early Swedish settlers here, and was still living in Geneseo in 1880. Another pioneer was Adolf Säfström from Östergötland who lived on a farm not far from Geneseo.

Most of the Swedes who came to Geneseo to farm were poor and, in consequence, had to be satisfied with the low, badly drained lands, the early colonists having picked out the most desirable tracts. Never-

theless, the Swedish farmers in this neighborhood have been doing well. The Swedish people in Geneseo engaged in business and the trades also have prospered and have as a class attained a respected and prominent place in the community.

In the spring of 1855 Swedish Lutheran mission work was begun in Geneseo but not until 1859 was a church organized. Five years later, a Swedish Methodist church was established. This congregation began to decline in the eighties, and is now dissolved.

At the close of 1905, there were approximately 560 Swedish-Americans living in Geneseo and vicinity. The total population at the last census was 3,356.

DEKALB, DEKALB COUNTY

In 1853 DeKalb consisted of merely a couple of stores, a small hotel and a blacksmith shop. But at that time a railroad was built through, and the town began to grow apace. Building after building was erected and changes were made so rapidly that farmers who visited the town only once a month would hardly recognize the place. An enterprise that contributed largely to the development of the town was the location there of a barbed wire factory, which has since grown to be the largest industrial plant in this locality, employing thousands of workmen, a large percentage of whom are Swedes. In 1873 DeKalb got its village charter.

The first Swede in DeKalb was one Jonas Olsson, who came there from Dixon, where he had owned a farm. He was soon followed by his brother and two young men, the sons of a clergyman by the name of P. Bark. Of the Olsson brothers, who came from Slätthög, Smaland, the former was still living there in 1880 while the latter had farmed for twenty years near Sterling. In 1853 three more emigrants from Slätthög came over and settled here, namely: Nils Magnus Johnson, Johan Johansson and Jonas Johnson. All three were well-to-do farmers near DeKalb in 1880. Simultaneously with these, came John Olsson from Hjortsberga, Smaland. These four were poor emigrants who at first were employed by Americans as day laborers.

In 1854 Peter Månsson came with his family from Vislanda, Småland. He became the first Swedish householder in DeKalb, whence he moved to Salina, Kans., in 1879. Simultaneously with Mansson came Peter Jönsson, also from Vislanda, with a party of eleven others, all of whom settled in this vicinity, Jönsson and several of the others still living there in 1880.

The Göran Svensson mentioned among the early settlers of Geneva was also one of the early Swedes in DeKalb. He was born in the city

of Ulricehamn, emigrated in 1852, coming to Chicago, where he lived for three years before removing to Geneva and establishing himself there as a shoemaker. In the early sixties he came to DeKalb, where he plied his trade for many years.

In 1858 a Swedish Lutheran church was organized in DeKalb, and thirty years later a Swedish Baptist church. There is also a Swedish Mission church of more recent date. The Lutheran congregation is numerically one of the strongest of its kind in the state while the latter



De Kalb—Main Street

two are quite small. The city has a number of Swedish fraternal organizations. The Swedish population of DeKalb and vicinity is now approximately 3,500, the total population in 1900 being 5,904.

GALVA, HENRY COUNTY

Of the origin of Galva, which dates back to the fifties, the following is told. In 1853 two Americans, J. M. and Wm. L. Wiley, took a trip from Peoria to Rock Island, passing through this locality. Pleased with the natural prospect, they decided to pitch their camps here, selecting for that purpose a grove which was afterward named College Park. As they reached the top of the hill one of the men, standing erect in the

wagon and surveying the surrounding country, exclaimed, "What a glorious country! Let us buy the land and found a town here!" Said and done. Negotiations for the purchase were opened at once and soon the land was theirs. But some time elapsed before any sign of the future town appeared, there being but three human dwellings in the neighborhood, and these small and far apart. The thing needed to give the place a start was a railroad, and the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railway company in the fall of 1853 agreed to build its line through that point and locate a station there, provided land for that purpose was donated. This the owners agreed to, and the following autumn its trains thundered through the town of Galva, which then existed only on paper.

This was at the time when the Bishop Hill Colony five miles away was at the height of its prosperity. The Wileys had purchased forty acres of land just south of the new town site and subsequently sold part of it to the colonists and another part of it to one Jacob Emery. In this wise the Bishop Hill people obtained a voice in the affairs of the new town, which they named Gefle, after the capital of the Swedish province of Gestrikland, from which they came. The name is said to have been first suggested by Olof Johnson, one of the leaders of the colonists. The Americans of the neighborhood, however, corrupted this to Galva, which was retained as the permanent form.

Galva was developed with a rapidity almost without precedent among the booming towns springing up in the new country. Three years after its founding, the place had 1,500 inhabitants, a large number being Swedes, whose industry and enterprise contributed to its development. The largest share toward its upbuilding in the first few years was contributed by Bishop Hill. As soon as the railway had been completed, the colony erected a large warehouse at Galva, and shortly afterward a large business block of brick. Other business buildings followed, one of which was first used as a bank but was later turned into a hotel. The first comfortable dwelling house in the place was also erected by the colony.

In the foregoing chapter the extensive business enterprises of Olof Johnson have been described. The large warehouse was used to store grain which was bought up and shipped in large quantities, making Galva, at least for a time, one of the principal grain shipping centers in the state. The other large structure was used as a packing house for pork. It is related that at one time when the colony had $60,000 worth of pork from hogs raised at Bishop Hill stored here, the whole stock spoiled from careless packing, and was carted away and buried in a lot purchased for that purpose, together with many barrels of pork returned from eastern markets. The colony also carried on a

general merchandise business and banking at Galva, and had a lumber yard there. Most of these enterprises, if not all, proved failures, entailing great loss to the colonists instead of being, as they ought to have been, great sources of income to their community.

Among the early Swedish business men of Galva were one Youngberg, who owned a small store, and Erik Quick, a watchmaker, who tinkered with innumerable side lines of business. Both of these men later went to California. Afterwards the number of Swedes in business increased, so as to make them predominant in many lines.

Among the more notable men who have resided in Galva are, Jonas W. Olson, son of the aforesaid Olof Olsson, and John Root, son



Galva—Central Park

of John Ruth, the assassin of Erik Jansson; both these men are lawyers and still live in Galva.

In Galva was founded one of the first Swedish-American newspapers, the full title of which was "Svenska Republikanen i Norra Amerika." It was first issued in the spring of 1856 and discontinued in the summer of 1858, after having been moved to Chicago that year. Late in the following decade, or in 1869, a Swedish and English newspaper, "The Illinois Swede," was started at Galva. Simultaneously an all-English newspaper, "The Galva Republican," was published by the same firm. Late in 1870 "The Illinois Swede" was re-christened "Nya Verlden" and published exclusively in the Swedish language. The paper was moved to Chicago early in 1871, and in the fall of 1877

it was combined with "Nya Svenska Amerikanaren," resulting in a new paper, entitled "Svenska Tribunen."

In 1867 Galva obtained its village charter. The town had 2,682 inhabitants in 1900. There are three Swedish churches, the Methodist-Episcopal, founded in 1867, the Lutheran, founded in 1869, and a church of the Mission Covenant. In 1905 the first-named church had 175 members, the second 420 and the last 14 members. It has not been possible to ascertain the number of Swedish-Americans in Galva, but with the aid of the above figures it may be stated with a reasonable degree of accuracy that at least half of the population is of the Swedish nationality.

ONEIDA, KNOX COUNTY

The little town of Oneida is situated in the most fertile part of Knox county. Although not among the first settlers there, the Swedes have had a large share in the development of the locality. The first



Oneida

white settler in Ontario township, where Oneida is situated, was Alexander Williams, who came there in 1833. The same year G. W. Melton settled there and built the log cabin which was the first permanent human habitation in the locality. The first schoolhouse was erected in 1839 and the first church edifice, a Presbyterian one, in 1840.

The town of Oneida was founded in 1854 by C. F. Camp and B. S. West, who built a hotel in the place. At Christmas time the same year the railroad came through, giving the place its real impetus for growth.

The first Swedish settler in the township was Georg Boström, who came to America as a boy and was reared in an American family. The year of his arrival in Ontario township is not known, but that he removed from there to Wataga in the seventies is a certainty. After Boström came D. Danielsson and his wife from Ockelbo, Gestrikland. They had come to Bishop Hill as young unmarried people, and were there subjected to bitter persecution on account of a love correspondence carried on in defiance of the drastic rule against marriage and every form of courtship. Disgusted with the petty annoyances following their innocent correspondence, they removed to Oneida in 1855 and were married. A few years later the pair located in Clay county, Kansas. Simultaneously with Danielsson, E. J. Pettersson from Tjärstad, Östergötland, settled in Oneida, after living for five years in various parts of the United States. He established himself as a watchmaker and jeweler and was engaged in that business for at least twenty-five years. A number of Swedes early moved into the surrounding neighborhood, where they have become successful farmers and added materially to the wealth of the community. The population of Oneida was 785 at the last census. No Swedish church has been organized here.

BATAVIA, KANE COUNTY

The Swedish colony of Batavia is of a later date than those of the neighboring towns of St. Charles and Geneva, but its members are numerous and active, and the place amply deserves a mention among important Swedish communities.

The very first settler in Batavia was Christopher Payne, who came in the summer of 1833. He was soon followed by other settlers who came in such numbers that a school was built and a merchandise store opened the next year. In 1844 settlement of the opposite bank of the Fox River was begun after a bridge had been constructed. The splendid water power afforded by the rapids at this place was gradually exploited for manufacturing purposes and thus this bustling little manufacturing center came into existence.

One of the early Swedish settlers here was A. P. Andersson, who figured also among the pioneers of Geneva. He came from Böne, Vestergötland, and was a tailor by trade. In 1854 he removed to Batavia, where he established a tailor shop of his own in the middle sixties. Andersson, however, found several Swedes ahead of him, men engaged in cutting timber for a railroad company. Following

A. P. Andersson came August Andersson, from Halland, who removed to DeKalb after a short stay. A little later Gustaf Svensson, a moulder, joined the Swedish settlement. By 1880 he had made himself known as the inventor of a new kind of fence which was used extensively in the West.

In the late sixties there was a considerable influx of Swedes to Batavia, most of the newcomers obtaining work in the stone quarries situated just outside of the town. Since then Swedes have constantly kept moving in. A large number are employed in the factories, while not a few are in business for themselves. Several have gone to farming in the immediate neighborhood.



Batavia

Until 1872 the Swedish Lutherans of Batavia had belonged to the church in Geneva, but that year they withdrew and organized a local congregation, now one of the largest in the Illinois Conference. In 1870 a Swedish Mission church was founded and about the same time a Swedish M. E. church. There is considerable activity in the matter of fraternal organizations in Swedish circles here. Batavia had a population of 3,871 in 1900 and at the close of 1905 the Swedish-Americans of the city numbered about 1,600.

MONMOUTH, WARREN COUNTY

The city of Monmouth was founded in 1852, but made little progress up to 1855, when it got its railroad. The following year the Presbyterians founded Monmouth College, an institution which grew to be largely attended. The Swedes have been on the ground since the

early fifties, but never in such numbers as to cut much of a figure in the municipality.

The first Swede in Monmouth was, it is believed, Johan Lund from Helsingland, who came here in 1853, but soon moved away and is known to have died somewhere in Missouri while on a journey to Pike's Peak, Colo. In 1854 came J. O. Lundblad, from Oppeby, Östergötland, who was also among the pioneer settlers of Princeton, and Erik Engvall. The two were for a time partners in the shoe business, and after the firm dissolved Engvall, who died in 1876, conducted a shoe store of his own for a number of years, prospering in the business.



Monmouth South Main Street

The brothers Håkan and Lewis Nelson from Skåne arrived the same year and a year later Måns Cassell, also from Skåne. In 1855 John Johnson came from Helsingland and Jakob Söderström from Visby. The former left for Iowa in 1879, while the latter continued into the eighties as a shoe dealer in Monmouth. Carl Lundgren from Nyköping located here in 1856 and served in a Minnesota regiment in the Civil War. One year after Lundgren came Jonas Larsson from Skåne, who moved out to Iowa in 1871. One Holmberg, who had a military education from the old country, settled in Monmouth in 1859, enlisted in the Union Army at the outbreak of the war, and the last that was heard of him was his promotion to the rank of major.

So few were the Swedes in Monmouth that a Swedish Lutheran congregation could not be organized here until 1868, and then there was only a very small flock, which, however, has increased materially

in the last twenty years. In 1888 a Swedish Baptist church was established with a limited membership, which has grown but little since.

In 1900 the population of Monmouth was 7,460. At the end of 1905 the Swedes in Monmouth proper were about 450 and in the surrounding country about 2,000.

KEWANEE, HENRY COUNTY

The first white settlers in Kewanee township were John Kilvington, Robert Coustes and Cornelius Bryant, who came there in 1836. Through the efforts of these men and others the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railway Company was induced to build through the little village of Kewanee, which then developed greatly to the detriment of the neighboring village of Wethersfield, whose inhabitants had the mortification of seeing building after building placed on rollers and hauled to Kewanee. Within eighteen months, the place had 1,500 inhabitants. After rich coal veins were discovered in the vicinity and mining had begun, the young city grew still more rapidly. Several factories sprang up as the beginning of industrial plants which have been growing larger year by year.

Erik Eriksson from Nora parish, Upland, is believed to have been the first Swedish settler in Kewanee. As a member of the Bishop Hill Colony he had grown weary of the irksome yoke laid upon the shoulders of the faithful and removed to Kewanee in 1855, setting up a saddlery shop which he conducted for ten years, whereupon he removed to Altona. From there he went to Nekoma. Quite a number of Bishop Hill colonists located in Kewanee in 1856, among whom another Erik Eriksson from Nora, with his two sons, Erik and Petter, Erik Bengtsson, Anders Barlow and Hans Lindgren. About the same time there came from other localities Petter Berglund, John Hedberg, Petter Vestlund, hailing from Gestrikland, and John Carlsson and John Pettersson from Smaland, who were followed the year after by A. Johnson from Gestrikland.

The last named of the two Erikssons returned to Sweden in 1867 where he died a year later. His two sons in 1857 went to California where they worked for several years digging for gold without success. From there they went to British Columbia, where fortune smiled upon them so lavishly that in a year and a half they could return to Sweden with 100,000 crowns. They chose for their wives the two daughters of Erik Eriksson of Nekoma, and made their homes, the one in Upsala, the other in Nora. Barlow later became a storekeeper at Bishop Hill. Of the early Swedish settlers, A. Johnson, Petter Berglund, Petter

Vestlund and John Petterson were mentioned in 1880 as still living in Kewanee.

In the early seventies, when coal mining had been fully developed, there was a generous influx of Swedes to Kewanee. Many of them subsequently removed to Bloomington and vicinity, but in later years immigration has brought others who more than make good the loss, and at present the Swedish population is quite large in proportion to the total.



Kewanee—Tremont Street

The city has a vigorous Swedish Lutheran congregation, organized in 1869. The Swedish Methodist Church was founded twenty years after. Such a church was organized here as early as 1859, but before 1880 its membership was decimated by removals to the point where the field had to be abandoned and the church property sold. Later the Swedish Methodists got a new foothold in Kewanee, the result being the organization of the second church. There is also a small Swedish Baptist church which has been in existence since 1901.

The census of 1900 gave 8,382 as the total population of Kewanee. The Swedish-Americans there at the close of 1905 were from 2,000 to 3,000 in number.

PAXTON, FORD COUNTY

Ford county was organized in 1859. Two years before there arrived the first Swedish settler, Sven Hedenskog, superintendent of a large country estate in Halland, Sweden, who emigrated in 1857, settling a few miles west of the site of Paxton. Being a poor man, he was obliged to undergo the severest hardships, but his fortitude stood the test and he had succeeded in accumulating considerable property before removing in the latter seventies to Nebraska, where he died not long after.

In 1859 a sailor by the name of Carl Andersson and one Anders Olsson, both from Helsingland, settled in the vicinity of Paxton. Andersson in the seventies removed to Colorado, leaving a daughter in Paxton. Olsson was still living on a farm three miles south of the city in 1880 and was then in comfortable circumstances. There was no great influx of Swedes to Paxton until 1863, when they began to settle here in considerable numbers, for reasons presented in the following.

In 1860, the year of its organization, the Augustana Synod established in Chicago the Augustana Theological Seminary for the purpose of preparing young men for the ministry. While the synod was still small, its members few and there was difficulty in raising the money needed for the support of the seminary by free contributions, some of the leading men conceived the idea of purchasing a large tract of land and by selling farms to prospective settlers procure the funds needed to secure the permanence of the institution. The directors of the seminary, who were authorized to look up a suitable tract, after visiting a couple of states for that purpose, without arriving at any conclusion, received from the Illinois Central Railway Company an offer of a suitable tract of land at Paxton. The offer was accepted and an agreement signed by both parties in February, 1863. This brought quite a number of settlers to the place, yet they did not come in such numbers as to insure the success of the plan, causing the authorities after a few years to cast about for a new location for the school. A more detailed account of these transaction will be found in the historical sketch of Augustana College and Theological Seminary.

Among the settlers was Erik Rasmusson from Gammalstorp, Blekinge province, who had emigrated ten years before, locating near Galesburg in 1853. Other contemporary settlers of Paxton were, Carl Larsson, Erik Carlsson, John Andersson and A. M. Hansson, who all bought farms and located there permanently. In 1864 J. H. Wistrand came to Paxton and was in business there until 1875, when he removed to Moline and opened a store in that city. Simultaneously with Wistrand came Petter Hedberg from Attica, Ind., who established a lumber yard. He became justice of the peace and later was elected

tax collector. Ill health compelled him to remove to Denver, Colorado, in 1873, where we find him serving as Swedish-Norwegian vice consul in 1880.

From Attica, Ind., where Swedes had settled in the early fifties, a number of these removed to Paxton in 1865, among whom Fredrik Björklund, Carl Fager, John Svan, John Johnson, Carl Pettersson, Petter Larsson, Carl Johnson, Adolph Johnson and John Nelson, all farmers, except Larsson and Nelson, who were merchants.



Paxton -Market Street

The influx of Swedish settlers continued steadily until 1870, but not on so large a scale as the Synod and the directors of the institution had hoped. The removal of the institution to Rock Island in the seventies naturally worked to the detriment of the Paxton colony, many of the Swedish settlers leaving for other places farther west. During the next few years, however, the exodus was partly counterbalanced by an increased immigration from Sweden.

The Swedish element in Paxton has predominated in many respects from the first. This is especially true with respect to local politics and business pursuits. Around Paxton Swedish farmers are living in great numbers, most of them being in very comfortable circumstances.

In church matters the Swedes of Paxton have taken a prominent

part. The Swedish Lutheran congregation there dates back to 1863. In 1878 a Swedish Mission church was organized, but the Methodists and Baptists have not seen fit to enter this field.

In 1900 the population of Paxton was 3,036, and in 1905 there were approximately 3,000 Swedish-Americans living in and around the city.

SYCAMORE, DEKALB COUNTY

The city of Sycamore, county seat of DeKalb county, is situated on a plain at some elevation over the surrounding country and is the center of one of the most fertile regions in Illinois, if not in the entire country. The plain, or plateau, which at its highest point has an elevation of 772 feet above sea level, constitutes the watershead between the Fox and Rock rivers and slopes quite abruptly toward the Kishwaukee River, an insignificant stream which bends around the north and east side of the city at a distance of half a mile.

DeKalb county was organized in 1837 and named after Baron John DeKalb from Alsace, who was a general in the Revolutionary War and fell in the battle of Camden. Three years before organization, the area had a population of 1,697. The land was not opened to settlers until 1843, being comprised in an Indian reservation, but landseekers were on the ground as early as 1835 selecting their claims. But in those lawless times to defend one's right to his claim was far from easy. Quarrels and fights were the order of the day throughout that period, followed by protracted lawsuits after definite property rights had been established.

In the early days of the county, the neighborhood was infested by a numerous, well organized band of outlaws, who made a specialty of stealing horses and saddles, not, however, disdaining to carry away other personal property. So great was the general uncertainty, that for a period of four years the settlers were compelled to keep their places guarded by night. Ultimately, when conditions had grown altogether intolerable, they organized themselves into vigilance committees for their own protection and for the summary punishment of the outlaws. The settlers acted with such vigor and promptness that the county was cleared of horse-thieves and robbers in a very short time.

The early history of Sycamore does not differ much from that of other towns. The first white man to settle there arrived in 1835; his name was Lysander Darling. The same year a Norwegian physician named Norbo took possession of a tract of timber land which is known as Norwegian Grove to this day. Simultaneously, a Frenchman settled

here, giving his name to the place known as Chartres Grove. A year later a New York land company took possession of a tract in this neighborhood, comprising two square miles. The same company laid out the site of Sycamore, built a dam across the Kishwaukee River and erected a flour mill.

The original Sycamore settlement consisted of a group of three loghuts on the north side of the Kishwaukee. With that, building was discontinued on account of the unsanitary location, and the new site was laid out, the first house to be erected there being built by Captain Eli Barney at the southeast corner of the present courthouse square.



Sycamore—State Street

The first courthouse was erected in 1839. At the end of one year the little village consisted of about a dozen rude dwellings scattered over a large area.

The early growth of the place is shown by the following figures: in 1848 Sycamore had 262 inhabitants; in 1849, 320; in 1850, 390 and in 1851, 435. From 1855 on its growth was more rapid. In 1858 it received its town charter, and in 1869 it became a city with Reuben Ellwood as its first mayor.

Sycamore has a picturesque, healthful location. It has unusually wide streets and large building lots and, especially in summer, the comfort of the inhabitants is enhanced by the double or treble rows of shade trees that surround the houses or skirt the streets and walks, giving to the entire city a park-like appearance. Here and there above the masses of foliage a church steeple points toward the sky, giving mute evidence that the inhabitants are devoted to other than merely

material interests. Persons familiar with many different localities in the state say that Sycamore is one of the prettiest of the smaller cities of Illinois.

The city has three large industrial establishments and a number of smaller ones. The former are the Sycamore Foundry and Machine Company, the Chicago Insulated Wire Company and the Sycamore Preserve Works. The first named employs about 100 men, the second an equal number, while the third during the summer season gives work to 200 to 300 persons. Among the smaller plants are a cigar factory, dairies, stone quarries, wagon and agricultural implement factories, flour mills, brick yards, a soap factory, a varnish factory, a furniture factory and others. The city has water works and electric lighting systems. Eleven churches, three public schools and one girls' seminary are located here.

In 1880 the population of Sycamore was 3,028, in 1890 it had been reduced to 2,987 and in 1900 again increased, the census giving 3,653 as the total number.

The citizens carry on various lines of business, liberally patronized by the prosperous population of the surrounding country. The city has excellent communications, the North-Western and Great Western railways crossing each other at this point. The distance from Chicago is 56 miles.

The first Swedes in Sycamore were Peter Johnson from Mjellby, Blekinge, and Andrew Johnson and Anna Carlsson, a widow, both from Skatelöf, Småland. Somewhat later came the brothers Daniel and Sven Gustafsson and Anna Andersson, a widow whose husband had lost his life while serving in the Civil War. Peter Johnson was still living in 1898, a venerated member of the Swedish Lutheran church. His wife and a daughter died in 1897. Andrew Johnson, who was a brother-in-law of Peter Johnson, removed to Colorado in the late seventies and died there as the owner of a goldmine. His widow, née Anna Carlsson, who returned to Sweden, was still living there in 1898, and Daniel Gustafsson was then living in Iowa. His brother Sven died prior to that time.

When the Civil War broke out there lived in Sycamore a Swedish ex-artillery officer by the name of C. J. Stahlbrand, engaged in the business of abstract examiner. He obtained a commission from Governor Yates to recruit a battery of artillery, was chosen captain of the battalion formed by this and a couple of other batteries, was promoted major and then brigadier general for bravery, served in the army for about a year after the close of the war, then made his home in Beaufort, S. C., died in Charleston Feb. 3, 1894, and was buried in Columbia, in the same state. To this prominent Swedish-American

citizen we will revert in a subsequent chapter, dealing with the Illinois Swedes who took part in the Civil War.

In front of the courthouse in Sycamore the people of DeKalb county in 1896 erected an imposing monument in memory of the men from this county who fought and died for the Union cause on Southern battlefields. Among these men were a number of Swedish-Americans.

Another early Swedish settler here was Carl Carlson from Moheda, Småland, arrived in 1869 and subsequently the most successful and prosperous Swedish farmer in the county. He was still living here in 1898, enjoying a considerable fortune accumulated during a life of



Sycamore—Court House and Soldiers' Monument

toil and prudent husbandry. During the period covered by the late sixties and early seventies the number of Swedish inhabitants was substantially increased through direct immigration from Sweden. In 1870 they were strong enough to organize a Lutheran church, which was for a time the only Swedish church in the place, being followed in 1888 by a Baptist church, which, however, has made but small acquisitions. The Swedes of Sycamore have taken active part in local politics, and several of them have held public office. In the matter of fraternal orders the Sycamore Swedes will not bear comparison with other Swedish-American centers.

In the year 1880 there were in Sycamore and vicinity about 1,000 Swedish people and in 1905 some 1,500. Those living in the city are

engaged in various commercial pursuits, many of them being in business for themselves. A number of the retired farmers of the neighborhood are now residing in town, enjoying in their old age the fruits of their labors in earlier years.

Before closing this brief historical sketch of the Swedish colony at Sycamore, we desire to give an account of the interesting visit paid to Sycamore years ago by Christina Nilsson, the renowned Swedish singer. In December, 1870, the Swedish nightingale appeared in Chicago, captivating the moneyed aristocracy of the city at a grand concert, and being herself feted at a splendid banquet given by Swedish-Americans headed by the Svea Society. The Swedes in Sycamore, hearing of these affairs, were seized with a natural desire to see and hear the prima donna. This desire was strengthened by the fact that relatives of the great singer were living in Sycamore, as well as other persons who knew her from the time when, as "Stina from Snugge," she traveled around singing at country fairs in Smaland.

But there was still another reason why they wished to have her visit Sycamore, and that a weighty one. Twenty years before, Jenny Lind had given a handsome sum to the fund for the building of the St. Ansgarius Church of Chicago and subsequently donated a valuable communion service to the same church. Why, then, they reasoned, should not Christina Nilsson visit her own people at Sycamore and by her voice assist in raising the money needed for a church for the congregation organized that same year? They met and counseled, resulting in the appointment of a committee to go to Chicago and make their wishes known to the singer. In order to make assurance doubly sure, they appointed on this committee Anders Ingemansson, a man whom Christina Nilsson well knew. In former days while Anders was living at Löfhult, a part of the property belonging to the iron works at Huseby, Småland, he often hauled loads of ironware from the factory to Vexiö or Ljungby, and many a time the little flaxen-haired violin player from Snugge got a ride with him to and from the fairs held in these towns. Would she have the heart to refuse a request made by him? Hardly.

The other two members of the committee were one Gustafsson and Andrew Johnson. Through the kind offices of Rev. Erland Carlsson they obtained an audience with the singer, who consented instantly. Certainly she would come and sing for them! But Strakosch, her impresario, said no. Suppose she would catch a cold and become indisposed but for one evening—it would entail the loss of thousands of dollars. Or if there should be a train wreck and she would break an arm or a leg, what a dilemma they would all be in! Such was his reasoning, concluding with a repeated refusal to let her go.

But the singer made light of the objections of her manager, mildly ridiculing his foolish arguments, until he had to submit. Not wanting to break her engagement in Chicago, Christina Nilsson was compelled to go to Sycamore on Christmas Day, which fell on a Sunday. She was accompanied by the singers and musicians of her company, a number of prominent Swedish citizens of Chicago and, last but not least, Strakosch himself, who went in order to see that no harm came to his Swedish nightingale.

The concert in Sycamore was given in the American Methodist church. Christina Nilsson, as usual, made an absolute conquest. Probably never before had she sung Gounod's "Ave Maria" with such profound feeling as at this occasion. She gave two other numbers, besides. Her American hearers were as charmed as her own countrymen. But the concert given in the church, to which an admission fee of three dollars was charged, had to be supplemented by a popular concert, in order to give the poorer classes an opportunity to hear her. At this concert, held in Wilkins Hall, she again sang "Ave Maria" and, in order to get into complete touch with her audience, now almost exclusively Swedish, rendered several Swedish ballads in the most approved style of little "Stina from Snugge." The net profit of these two concerts amounted to about $1,000. The amount appropriated to the church building fund we cannot exactly state.

Ingemansson, the old friend of Christina Nilsson, who had engaged in the carpenter's trade in Sycamore, died there about 1890. Her relatives, who doubtless are still living there, are Anna, Magni, Gustaf, Emil, Ida and Oscar Nilsson, the children of Petter Nilsson and Eva, his wife, now deceased. She was a cousin of the great singer. Another relative of the latter is Mrs. Carrie Bohlin, who bears the same relationship to the singer as the children of Petter and Eva Nilsson.

MISCELLANEOUS SETTLEMENTS

The previous sketches deal with the history of only the older and larger Swedish settlements in Illinois. But there are quite a number of later ones, large and small, many of which, especially those of recent date, by reason of rapid growth and the importance attained, would deserve a place in this series. But we are constrained to limit ourselves to the bare mention of their name and the time of founding. In many cases it has been possible to give the year with absolute certainty, while in many others the time can only be approximated. In the latter instances, the year stated is the earliest in which Swedes are definitely known to have lived in the respective localities, not, however, precluding the possibility of earlier settlement by individual Swedes.

Following are the older of the smaller Swedish settlements of which the time of first settlement is positively known:

Settlement	County	Founded
Lafayette	Stark	1846
Henderson Grove	Knox	1849
Beaver	Iroquois	1853
Pecatonica	Winnebago	1854
Avon	Fulton	1854
Toulon	Stark	1855
Wyanet	Bureau	1855
New Windsor	Mercer	1859
New Boston	Mercer	1859

Following are the smaller Swedish settlements of more recent date, the year of first settlement being definitely known:

Settlement	County	Founded
Coal Valley	Rock Island	1863
Farmersville	McLean	1863
Bloomington	McLean	1865
Woodhull	Henry	1865
Aledo	Mercer	1866
Roseville	Warren	1867
Nekoma	Henry	1867
Evanston	Cook	1868
Lockport	Will	1868
Danville	Vermillion	1869
Ophiem	Henry	1870
Lynn	Henry	1870
Osco	Henry	1870
Cambridge	Henry	1870
Donovan	Iroquois	1872

Earlier Swedish settlements where the year of founding is doubtful are:

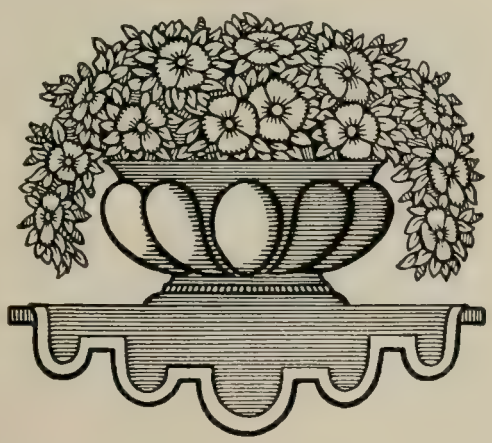
Elgin, Kane County	1852
Aurora, Kane County	1857

More recent Swedish settlements of doubtful date are as follows:

Settlement	County	Founded
Neoga	Cumberland	1862
Varna	Marshall	1868
Joliet	Will	1870
Biggsville	Henderson	1872
Lemont	Cook	1872
Kirkland	DeKalb	1872
Highwood	Lake	1874
New Bedford	Bureau	1874
Rankin	Ford	1875
Port Byron	Rock Island	1875
Prophetstown	Whiteside	1875
Morrison	Whiteside	1875
Oregon	Ogle	1876

Settlement	County	Founded
Sibley	Ford	1879
Gibson City	Ford	1881
Peoria	Peoria	1883
Streator	La Salle	1884
Putnam	Putnam	1885
La Grange	Cook	1887
Clarence	Ford	1887
Morris	Grundy	1889
Gladstone	Henderson	1889
Canton	Fulton	1890
Stronghurst	Henderson	1892
Waukegan	Lake	1892
Wenona	Marshall	1892
Lily Lake	Kane	1894
Belvidere	Boone	1894
Cable	Mercer	1895
Utica	Fulton	1900
Granville	Putnam	1902
Sandwich	DeKalb	1904

Beyond this individual Swedes with or without families are to be found in almost every part of the state.



CHAPTER VI.

The Swedish Methodist-Episcopal Church

Preparatory Work

IT was through Olof G. Hedström that Methodism first was introduced among the Swedes and other Scandinavians in New York and later by his brother Jonas Hedström among the Swedish settlers in Illinois. A sketch of the life and work of Jonas Hedström has been given among those of the first Swedes in Illinois. We proceed to give a brief account of the church founded by these two brothers, the earliest Swedish religious denomination in America.

Jonas Hedström preached his first Swedish sermon December 15, 1846, in a little blockhouse in the woods about three miles southwest of Victoria, the same house where Olof Olsson, the advance representative of Erik Jansson, and later Erik Jansson himself, received the first shelter after arriving at their destination in the West. At this same occasion the first Swedish Methodist congregation was organized, consisting of five members, namely, Hedström and his wife, Andrew Hjelm and wife, and Peter Newberg. At Christmas time, a couple of weeks later, the first Swedish Methodist quarterly meeting was held in the same cabin, when several new members were welcomed. For some time Jonas Hedström continued as the spiritual leader of the little group of Swedish Methodists, meanwhile pursuing his blacksmith's trade. But as the flock grew larger, he gave way to the urgings of the members to devote his whole time to gospel work.

In August, 1848, he was received on probation into the American Rock River Conference and appointed missionary among the Swedish settlers. Thereafter he devoted himself almost exclusively to preaching and soon had ample opportunity to display his great capacity as an organizer. After making a few visits to a certain place he would proceed to organize a congregation there, and soon had to divide his time among a number of places. He labored with such untiring energy that within the year he had founded churches at Andover and Gales

burg and was able to report to the Conference in 1849 no less than six charges, viz., Victoria, Andover, Galesburg, Lafayette, Moline and Rock Island, aggregating sixty members in full connection and thirty-three on probation.

At first Jonas Hedström was entirely alone in the work in this mission field. Until the arrival of L. P. Esbjörn, the Lutheran minister, in 1849, he was also the only Swedish clergyman in the entire West. Soon afterward he received his first assistant in John Brown, who became itinerant preacher among the widely scattered settlers. In the autumn of 1849 Hedström got a second assistant, C. P. Agrelius, who came on from New York with a letter of recommendation from the



The Log Cabin in which the First Swedish M. E. Church in America was Organized

elder Hedström. In the spring of 1850, this man was sent to a Norwegian Methodist mission in Wisconsin, but the same year he received new reinforcements in the persons of Andrew Ericson and A. G. Swedberg, who soon after their arrival from Sweden in the late fall of 1849 joined the Methodist Church and subsequently became traveling missionaries. In May, 1850, a new mission field was opened in New Sweden, Jefferson county, Iowa. The records of the conference meeting of 1850 show that the Swedish mission in connection with the Rock River Conference at that early date comprised four circuits with six preachers and 195 church members. The preachers were the five already mentioned, together with Peter Cassel, who was stationed at New Sweden, Ia.

In 1852 two more preachers were added, viz., Peter Challman, or Källman, and Erik Shogren, or Sjögren, who at the behest of Hedström devoted themselves to church work after having returned from a gold-

seeking excursion to California late in the summer of 1851, but were not accepted on probation by the Rock River Conference until September, 1853. In January of that year the number of workers was again increased by the addition of S. B. Newman, who for two years had been assistant to Rev. O. G. Hedström on the Bethel ship in New York harbor. Now he was sent to Chicago to take charge of the Swedish Methodist Church which had been organized there the previous month, December, 1852. The next addition was made in 1854, when Peter Newberg, Hedström's former helper in the blacksmith shop at Victoria, where he had been under the spiritual influence of his employer exchanged the anvil for the pulpit. The following year the corps of preachers received in Victor Witting a very valuable member who, after diverse experiences in this country, was won over to Methodism while on a visit to New York, having become familiar with the church during his previous residence in Illinois. All these preachers labored principally within the state, but incidentally extended their operations to Indiana and Iowa.

In spite of these reinforcements, the work of Hedström himself rather increased than lightened, as the enlargement of the field compelled him to make frequent long journeys to the widely scattered churches in order to exercise proper supervision of the work. His field now extended from Chicago west as far as New Sweden, Ia. Opposing forces notwithstanding, the progress of Methodism among the Swedish settlers was continuous. In 1856, at the conference meeting held in Peoria, all the Swedish churches of Illinois, Indiana and Iowa were combined into a special district with Jonas Hedström as its presiding elder. However, he was not long to hold this position, for in his work as pioneer missionary and on the long, difficult journeys he was constantly compelled to make, his health had been undermined to such an extent that he was forced to retire after one year. On May 11, 1859, less than two years later, death ended his career.

The Co-Workers of Jonas Hedström—John Brown

The first assistant of Jonas Hedström in the missionary field was John Brown. He was of Danish descent, born on the island of Als Dec. 23, 1813, but having been brought up among German-speaking people, he acquired that language and spoke Danish or Swedish with a marked German brogue.

Brown came to America as a sailor prior to May 14, 1843, when he was married in New York city to Johanna Baden, a German woman from Altona, who proved a true helpmeet to him.

In New York, presumably, he came in contact with one of the early emigrant parties of Erik Janssonists, joined the sect, and in 1847 we find him in Bishop Hill. Dissatisfied with the prophet and his

colony. Brown soon left, together with a number of others, the deserters settling at Lafayette, Stark county, eight miles east of Victoria, where they obtained employment from an American named Hodgeson. The energetic sailor at once joined the Methodists, whose tenets he favored. His slight acquaintance with Hedström, formed during the visits of the latter to Bishop Hill, was now deepened by more intimate intercourse with him. Finding Brown suitable timber for the ministry, Hedström lost no time in urging him to enter that vocation.

Ere long, Brown was in the field as a missionary, preaching first in and around Lafayette and Victoria, then in Andover and Rock Island. In the last-named place his efforts were especially successful. After having been received into the Conference in 1852, he was sent to labor among the Norwegians in Leland and Fox River, LaSalle county. As a consequence of overwork and privations his health soon broke down, compelling him to retire from active service after three years. He was subsequently employed as bridge tender at Freedom, halfway between Leland and Ottawa, having charge of the local church in the meantime. Some time later he removed to Iowa, locating in the little town of Nevada, Storey county. Despite ill health he traveled about the country preaching in English, German and Swedish in the new settlements, even now gathering many into the Methodist fold. Brown was a man of great zeal, a live, vivid and warmhearted preacher, and a very successful revivalist. When he got especially warmed up, both by his text and the summer heat on the prairies, he would throw off his coat and neckwear, and sometimes his vest, and go on preaching with a vim that was overpowering. Although sincerely devoted to Methodism, he was not fanatical or intolerant. "Let others stand by their flag; I'll stand by mine," was his motto, expressed in his bluff seaman's vernacular.

While engaged one day in painting a fence at his home in Nevada, he suffered an apoplectic stroke which ended his life. This was in 1875, presumably in the month of September.

Rev. Carl Petter Agrelius

The second in order of the ten assistants of Hedström during the first decade was Carl Petter Agrelius, in temperament, energy and mental make-up a complete contrast to Brown. He also had been assistant to Rev. O. G. Hedström on the Bethel ship in New York, serving there 1848-49, and subsequently as Jonas Hedström's assistant in the Victoria circuit. He became the first Swedish Methodist preacher among the Scandinavian population in Wisconsin. Agrelius was born in Östergötland Oct. 22, 1798, studied at the University of Upsala and was ordained to the ministry, very likely in 1822. After serving for

twenty-six years as a minister of the state church of Sweden, during the latter years as curate of the parish of Pelarne, in northern Smaland, he felt an inner call to go to America and take up Lutheran missionary work among the growing masses of emigrants. Together with a large party, he arrived in New York in 1848, probably in the month of October. Rev. Hedström and his alert assistant, Peter Bergner, who were constantly on the lookout for Swedes, went on board at once to bid the newcomers welcome, give advice and assistance and invite them to attend the service on board the Bethel ship that evening. By his dress and general appearance Agrelius at once attracted their attention, and on addressing him they learned that he was a minister of the Swedish state church.

Agrelius stopped in New York, where he attempted to build up a Swedish Lutheran congregation, an enterprise which, however, proved for too great for his capacity. He was devout, forsooth, and had the best of intentions, but lacked energy, enthusiasm and other qualities requisite to leadership. To him it was more natural to be led than to lead. Finding himself unable to organize a Lutheran church, he began to associate more intimately with Hedström, attended class meetings and services on board the missionary ship and preached there occasionally, at the request of Hedström. Before long he was a Methodist, heart and soul, joined their church, was licensed as local preacher a short time afterward and was engaged as Hedström's assistant on the Bethel ship for a year, or till the fall of 1849, when he was sent to Victoria to assist the younger Hedström. Together with E. Shogren and other recent arrivals from Sweden who, upon Hedström's advice, decided to settle at Victoria, he left New York, arriving at his destination in October. During the following six months he went from place to place in the surrounding circuit, preaching in the houses of the settlers.

At the solicitation of an influential American Methodist in Chicago or Evanston, who took a great interest in the Scandinavians and guaranteed support to the preacher for one year, Agrelius was sent to Spring Prairie, Wis., in the early part of 1850 in order to begin work among the Norwegian settlements thereabout. In July, 1851, he was received into the Wisconsin Conference on probation and sent as missionary to the Norwegians in Primrose, in that state. Here he remained for three years, till the fall of 1854, when he was sent to the Swedish Methodist mission in St. Paul and, a year later, to Marine, Chisago county, Minn. At this place he built a log cabin for himself on a piece of land he had purchased near Big Lake, and remained here for a number of years, preaching to his countrymen in the large surrounding settlements.

In the spring of 1860 he moved back to Wisconsin and served the

churches of Coon Prairie, Hart Prairie, Primrose and Highland; in 1866 he was declared superannuated, but continued for another year in charge of the Norwegian Methodist church of Willow River, whereupon his pastoral career ended. He now went back to live in retirement on his little farm in Marine, Minn., remaining there until 1878, when he removed to the home of his youngest son at Deer Park, St. Croix county, Wis. At that place he died August 18, 1881, at the mature age of eighty-three. On the same date twelve years after, his widow, Anna Elisabet, died at the age of eighty-four.

Agrelius was a man of tractable and peaceful disposition. Among his associates he was talkative, benign and social. Hospitable almost to a fault, he was ready to entertain in his little log cabin every wayfarer who passed, whether stranger or friend. He was a man of thorough education but limited executive ability. His sermons were dry and wearisome to listen to, their contents being in substance good, but lacking in depth.

Rev. Andrew Ericson

The third in order of Hedström's co-laborers was Andrew Ericson. Born at Röste, Bollnäs parish, Helsingland, July 8, 1815, he was converted in early youth and soon thereafter began to preach. He and his wife were among those who accompanied Rev. L. P. Esbjörn to America in 1849 and came with him to Andover. Ericson did not long remain there. Urged by Rev. Hedström, who soon after their arrival visited Andover, he, together with a number of other newcomers, decided to locate at Victoria. Almost immediately he joined the Methodist Church and became a faithful and ever willing assistant in whom Rev. Hedström reposed implicit trust. Though not naturally brilliant, he proved a very able preacher. The partisanship so prevalent in those early days did not enter into his mental make-up.

After laboring for a few years in Illinois, he was sent to New Sweden, Ia., in 1854, to assume charge of the Swedish Methodist congregation at that place and to exercise general supervision of the surrounding field, which at first was very large, extending from Burlington west to Swede Bend, a distance of two hundred miles. It is doubtful whether any other Swedish Methodist clergyman ever kept up services at points so far apart as those regularly visited by Andrew Ericson during the first part of the time he labored in this field.

At the close of April, 1854, the year of his coming to the state, a church had been organized in Swede Bend, Webster county, 175 miles west of New Sweden. No less than thirteen times in two years he traveled from New Sweden to Swede Bend, a distance both ways of

more than three hundred miles through wild and for the most part unsettled country. Not infrequently his own countrymen would refuse to shelter him, compelling him to spend the nights under the open sky—all because he was a Methodist preacher. Such was the partisan zeal among the church people at that time.

In 1856 Erieson was sent to Swede Bend and labored there exclusively until 1860, when he was sent back to Illinois and stationed at the Norwegian settlement in Leland. The following year he was minister in charge at Andover, which position he held for two years. At the conference of 1863, he requested that he be placed on the retired list, which being done he returned to Swede Bend, Ia., where he owned a farm. Here he spent his last days. Sept. 11, 1878, he was found dead just outside of his house, evidently struck down by apoplexy.

Andrew Erieson was a plain man of the people, with little book learning, his opportunities for study having been limited. Yet by dint of zeal and great devotion to his calling his labors were richly blessed. He was a man of peaceful and benign disposition, who made no enemies.

Rev. Anders Gustaf Swedberg

Anders Gustaf Swedberg, the fourth of Rev. Jonas Hedström's auxiliary workers, was born in 1827 or 1828 in the city of Hudiksvall or near there. In early age he joined the so-called "Luther Readers," or Hedbergians, and occasionally appeared as exhorter at their meetings. He accompanied Rev. L. P. Esbjörn to this country in 1849. When they arrived at Andover, an epidemic of sickness was raging there, and lodging could not be secured, so Swedberg and others proceeded to Galesburg. There he at once came in contact with the Methodists and soon came to feel at home among them. In the spring of 1850 he joined the Methodist Church and became exhorter and subsequently local preacher. The following year he was received on probation into the Rock River Conference. It was then resolved that Swedberg and Andrew Erieson should alternately have charge of the congregations of the Victoria-Galesburg circuit, principally that of Galesburg, where Swedberg resided.

At this time Swedberg was a young man, only twenty-one years of age; he possessed a good education, was a gifted speaker, had a pleasing manner, was full of fire and enthusiasm, qualities by which he won the hearts of all. It was the general opinion that in him Rev. Hedström had obtained one of his most valuable aids. But these expectations were not fulfilled. In the spring of 1852 an American Baptist clergyman by the name of Barry, a very eloquent man, came to Galesburg and by his sermons on the doctrine of baptism quickly

stirred up the whole community. Among quite a number of Swedes who were converted to the Baptist faith was Swedberg. He left the Methodist Church, was baptized anew and in 1853 was appointed minister of a newly organized church at Village Creek, Ia. He at first served for two years, or until 1855, when the church was left without a preacher until the autumn of 1856; then Swedberg was again called there, accepting the charge. In 1864 he was still in charge of this church, but since that time little is known of him and it is not known whether he is still among the living.

Rev. Peter Cassel

Peter Cassel, to whom frequent reference has been made, also was one of Rev. Hedström's co-workers. He was born in Åsbo parish, Östergötland, Oct. 13, 1790. In his native place he was a miller and afterwards foreman on a large country estate. From 1825 to 1830 this locality experienced a general revivalist movement in which Cassel joined. Cassel later became the leader of a party of emigrants who left Kisa, Östergötland, in 1845, destined for Pine Lake, Wis., but on reaching New York decided to change their route and went to Iowa, where they founded New Sweden, the first Swedish settlement in that state.

When in November, 1850, the Swedish Methodist Church in New Sweden was organized, Cassel was one of the first, if not the very first, to sign for membership. He soon became local preacher. The following year he was appointed minister in charge, serving in that capacity for three years, till the fall of 1854. Two years later he was ordained deacon of the Methodist Church. His strength soon failed, however, compelling him to resign. Cassel died March 4, 1857.

"Father" Cassel, as he was reverently styled by the people of New Sweden, was a man of the old stock, honest and true. He was the soul of the church as well as of the community, and was looked up to by all with respect and confidence.

Rev. Peter Challman

Among all the co-workers and assistants of Hedström, Peter Challman, or Källman, both as a revivalist and a pioneer preacher, took foremost rank. Being a man of exceptional energy, he would undoubtedly have attained still greater prominence under more favorable circumstances. He was born at the Voxna factory, in Helsingland, 1823. In the fall of 1844 he joined the Erik Janssonists and the following spring began to conduct religious meetings, preaching in accordance with the tenets of the sect. He was soon chosen one of Erik Jansson's

apostles and sent out by him to preach. By Källman's preaching many were won over. But to preach Erik Janssonism was fraught with grave peril. Källman was twice mobbed by the enraged populace; once he was near being killed, another time he was arrested and brought to the Gefle prison, the trial however, resulting in his release. These experiences impelled him to leave the country. With a party of other Erik Janssonists he left Stockholm for America June 26, 1846, arriving at Bishop Hill Oct. 28th, four months later.

Here he found conditions altogether at variance with the claims of the prophet and others, and in June, 1847, he left the colony in disgust, taking up a temporary abode in Lafayette. There he became acquainted with Hedström and other Methodists. In the fall of 1847 he removed to Galesburg, where he worked as a carpenter for two years, preaching occasionally to his fellow countrymen at the request of Hedström. It was at this time that the gold fever was at its height. Following the discovery of gold in California in 1848, the newspapers were filled daily with wonderful stories of marvelously rich strikes. The air was full of wild rumors. Wherever people met, whether in the street, in their homes or in church, they talked of gold, nothing but gold. Everywhere, people were seized with an irresistible longing for the glittering gold fields.

Many Swedes were among those smitten by the epidemic. We have noted that a Swedish party of goldseekers set out from Andover. In Galesburg another similar party was organized under the leadership of the energetic Challman. This party of twelve young Swedes, formed in January, 1850, started on March 14th on the 2,000 mile journey to the gold country. Following are the names of the men composing the party: Peter Challman, Erik Shogren, Jonas Hellström, George Challman, Victor Witting, Louis Larson, Peter Newberg, Charles Peterson, Olof Hedström, C. Alexander, Peter Magnus (surname unknown) and one Gustafson. On Sundays the party rested, Peter Challman, the leader, conducting divine services for his men. On July 14th the party reached their destination in California.

The result of the adventurous trip fell far short of expectations. Gold was found, to be sure, but not in such quantities as they had hoped for and far from sufficient to repay them for the hardships and perils of their long journey. Victor Witting remained until 1852, and Charles Peterson and Gustafson staid permanently, but the main party returned in July, 1851, after one year's work in the gold mines. In Chagres, now Aspinwall, on the return trip Alexander lost all his money in gambling and then disappeared. In despair over the unsatisfactory result of the trip, Peter Magnus drowned himself by jumping overboard shortly before the steamer by which the party

returned reached Chicago. Charles Peterson died in Los Angeles in 1898 at the age of eighty. He was a member of the Swedish Methodist Church of that city. George Challman is still living in Galesburg. Olof Hedström died in 1904, near Victoria. Erik Shogren died Jan. 2, 1906. Of him and Newberg we will speak later. Upon his return Hellström located at Victoria, engaging in business, from which, proving unprofitable, he soon retired. He enlisted at the outbreak of the Civil War, served in the Union army as a non-commissioned officer for a time and succumbed in the Arkansas campaign at a time and place unknown. Gustafson was taken ill after working in the diggings that summer and remained in California until his death. Louis Larson separated from the party at Salt Lake City, but proceeded to California, whence he returned to Victoria after a few months, bought land and became a prosperous farmer. He married Christin Olson, who bore him four sons and one daughter. He died a few years ago at his old homestead, about a mile from Victoria, where his son Just. A. Larson now lives with his wife, Nancy Elizabeth, a daughter of George Challman. The Larson family were worthy and respected members of the Methodist Church in Victoria.

Peter Challman returned via Panama and New York to Illinois, settling in Victoria, where he was at first employed as a house builder. The Methodist mission work among the local Swedes having grown quite extensive, Rev. Hedström, who knew Challman both from Lafayette and Galesburg, requested him to devote himself exclusively to this work, although Challman was not even a member of the Methodist Church. Challman acceded and began preaching. On Dec. 31, 1851, he joined the church at Victoria on probation, was later accredited as local minister, was accepted into the Rock River Conference on probation in 1853, at Chicago, and ordained deacon, was for a year itinerant preacher, then served the churches at Andover and Rock Island in 1854-5 and during the next two years preached in Victoria, Galesburg and the neighboring district. Together with Shogren he took a trip to Minnesota in 1854 or 1855 to visit the Swedish settlements there.

When all hope that Hedström would recover sufficiently to resume work was at an end, Challman was appointed presiding elder of the Swedish district in 1857, at the recommendation of Hedström himself. In this capacity Challman served with credit until 1865, when he was assigned to Bishop Hill. Here he labored for a year until the fall of 1866, when he undertook a trip to Sweden, "not for Christ, but in his own interest," he explained.

On his return to America he settled on his farm in Knox county, left the Methodist Episcopal Church for the Free Methodists and began

missionary work in and about Victoria in behalf of the latter denomination. He remained with the Free Methodists for four years, preaching and laboring at his own expense. During this time he built a Free Methodist church for the Swedes at Center Prairie, seven miles southwest of Victoria. When the Swedish congregation was dissolved, this edifice passed into the hands of an American congregation. Subsequently Challman gradually transferred his interests from the mission field to the corn field. In his ambition to acquire large tracts of land, he incurred heavy debts which, during and after the panic of the early seventies, he had great difficulty in paying.

In 1884 he removed to northwestern Iowa. He now regretted that he ever deserted his pastoral calling and the "old Methodist Church," as he styled it. In order to correct his error, in part at least, he joined the American M. E. Church at Galva, Ia., in 1890, subsequently taking part in several annual meetings of the Iowa Conference. A severe siege of influenza undermined his health, and after having been confined to the sickbed for half a year, he died in Challer, Ia., July 8, 1900, aged 77 years. His remains were borne to the grave by his six sons.

In several respects Peter Challman was a remarkable man. He seemed a born leader. He was a man of imposing personality, designed to attract attention in any company. Picture to yourself a man broad of shoulder and of powerful build, massive head, wide forehead, a bushy head of hair, lively dark-blue eyes, heavy eyebrows, a beardless face, the expression of which indicated energy, resoluteness and fearlessness, add to this a powerful bass voice that easily filled the largest edifice, and you have a fair image of Peter Challman in his prime. To those who did not know him well he appeared somewhat coarse and lacking in the finer sensibilities. But this was far from true. Under the rough surface of the man there beat a warm, sympathetic, benevolent heart. He was a forceful speaker, though not a finished orator, and knew better than most preachers how to deal with hardened hearts. Among the Methodists stories are still being told of the revivals that followed upon his strenuous preaching. During his clerical career Challman is said to have taken part in the organization of no less than twenty-two churches. In the course of a single year, it is said, he gained 800 converts to the Methodist belief. It was while he was presiding elder that the Swedish denominational organ, known as "Sändebudet," was established.

Rev. Erik Shogren

In Erik Shogren Jonas Hedström obtained one of his most eloquent and popular co-workers. There was something about his manner of

presenting the gospel truths that appealed irresistibly to his hearers. This pioneer among Swedish Methodists doubtless was instrumental



Rev. Erik Shogren

in gaining large numbers for the church during his long period of activity.

Shogren was born Jan. 26, 1824, at Gnarp, Helsingland. As a boy he attended the village school and at the age of fourteen became a

blacksmith's apprentice, afterward following that trade for many years. In the summer of 1849 he left Gefle on board the brig "Solide," bound for America, arriving at New York sixty-three days later. Here he was met by Peter Bergner, assistant to Hedström, and invited to attend services on board the Bethel ship. Hedström conducted the meeting with his usual vivacity. Shogren, being one of the "readers" from the old country, had attended many of their conventicles, but this was something altogether different. Notwithstanding the strange method of preaching, Shogren felt strongly drawn to Methodism, and Rev. Hedström easily persuaded him to join his brother, the younger Hedström, at Victoria. On his arrival he was unfavorably impressed with the primitive appearance of the settlement. He had expected to find something quite different, and soon left in disappointment, departing for Galesburg after a few weeks and remaining there for three months. In February, 1850, he joined the Methodist Church, becoming a member of the congregation there organized by Hedström the foregoing autumn. In March he joined the party of goldseekers organized in Galesburg and made the trip to California, returning the following year. He then settled in Victoria and began to conduct meetings and preach throughout that circuit, which then embraced Victoria, Galesburg, Andover, Rock Island, Moline and many other points.

At Hedström's suggestion he abandoned his trade and devoted himself wholly to ministerial work. The following year he was received on probation into the Rock River Conference, to which the Swedish missions in Illinois and Iowa belonged at that time. In 1854 he was ordained deacon and was made elder the year following. During the first two years he lived at Victoria while spending almost all his time traveling about the extensive circuit. In 1855 he was sent to preach in Chicago, where, despite stubborn opposition, he met with splendid success. In 1859 he was transferred to the Minnesota Conference, acting as minister in charge at St. Paul the first year and subsequently for three years as presiding elder of the Scandinavian district. In 1864-5 he served in Chicago, going from there to Boston, where, as assistant at the Seamen's Mission, he endeavored to organize a Swedish Methodist church, a task cut short by an illness which compelled him to return to Minnesota. During the years 1866-9 he had charge of the little church at Marine, then took a rest for one year, subsequently going back to Illinois. He was stationed at Bishop Hill until 1876, when he was transferred to the California Conference and placed in charge of the newly organized church at San Francisco. There he remained for over five years, and was then at his own request transferred to the Swedish Northwestern Conference and sent to Beaver

In this field he labored for only a year, subsequently serving the church at Galesburg in 1883-4 and the one at Rockford in 1884-5. Having been made presiding elder for the Chicago district the latter year, he served as such for two years and afterward as pastor in South Chicago, his last charge, for the same length of time.

In 1889 age and illness compelled him to retire from active work. He withdrew to his little country place near Red Wing, Minn., where he resided until 1903, when with his wife he removed to Napa, Cal., joining their youngest daughter, Mrs. Emma Farman, who is living there. He died in Napa on Jan. 2, 1906, after a short illness.

Like most other pioneers of Swedish Methodism in America, Shogren was a self-taught man. By assiduous studies and self-culture he sought to fill the gaps in his education. His favorite study was history, and from its pages he often drew valuable lessons for himself and his hearers. By nature eloquent, and possessing a pleasing voice, he trained himself year by year until attaining a high degree of skill and finish as a public speaker. This together with his rare affability gave him his remarkable power and influence over those who heard him.

Rev. Sven Bernhard Newman

In January, 1845, the same year that Rev. O. G. Hedström, on Whitsunday, May 25th, preached his first sermon in broken English on board the Bethel ship in New York harbor, a young Swede appeared for the first time at a place near Mobile, Ala., and preached Methodism in equally faltering English to the Americans of that place. This Swedish pioneer preacher in the sunny south, who later became one of the pathfinders and standard-bearers of Methodism, both east and west, was Rev. Sven Bernhard Newman.

Newman was born Sept. 15, 1812, at Höganäs, Skåne, had a careful bringing up and obtained employment as salesman with one of his brothers, a merchant of Landskrona. After working there eight years, he returned to his birthplace and taught private school several years. Another of his brothers had emigrated long before and established himself in business at Mobile. Sven followed in 1842 and for two years dealt in clothing and groceries not without success. Through his brother he was brought in contact with the Methodists, whom he joined in 1844. Without much knowledge of English, he shortly afterward began speaking at Methodist meetings. Friends who thought they detected in the young man more than ordinary ability urged him to consecrate his life to the pastoral calling. After some hesitation he took the advice and began to study theology under the

guidance of an American Methodist clergyman. In 1845 he was received on probation into the Alabama Conference, was ordained deacon in 1847 and elder in 1849.

Newman's first field of labor was the Campbelltown circuit in Florida, where he was stationed from 1845 to 1847. Subsequently assigned to another field, with headquarters at Milton, a pleasant little town not far from Pensacola, he labored zealously there for two years until transferred to Landerdale, Miss. In 1851 Newman was called to assist Rev. O. G. Hedström on the Bethel ship at New York, this



Rev. Sven Bernhard Newman

being the beginning of his work among Swedish people, a work which he pursued with untiring zeal as long as his physical strength permitted. After spending two years in New York, he was assigned to Chicago in 1853 to gather the scattered members of the Swedish Methodist Church organized several years before by the Hedstrom brothers. With his characteristic zeal and energy he took up the task, succeeding not only in collecting the dispersed flock but also in having a house of worship erected. The edifice was built at Illinois street and dedicated in 1854. Part of the building funds were solicited in his former fields in the South. With headquarters in Chicago, he made regular trips to other points, both in Indiana and Illinois, founding churches in Poolsville and Attica in the former state, and St

Charles and Beaver in the latter. In Chicago, together with Consul Schneidau and Revs. Unonius and Carlsson, Newman labored arduously among poor plague-stricken Swedish immigrants, a task trying indeed, but productive of blessed results.

In September, 1855, Newman was again assigned to New York to assist Rev. Hedström on board the Bethel mission ship. After four years he was sent to Jamestown, N. Y., where he was placed in charge of an extensive circuit, comprising the neighboring points Sugar Grove, Wrightsville, Frewsbury and others. He remained in Jamestown for seven years, 1859-66, afterwards going to the Central Illinois Conference on assignment to Galesburg, where he was stationed for two years. At the conference of 1868, he was appointed presiding elder of the Chicago district, then including Indiana, Illinois, Iowa and Kansas. He held this position for five years, in the meantime acting as solicitor for the Swedish Methodist Theological Seminary at Evanston, for whose benefit he raised a considerable amount.

Rev. Newman's subsequent assignments were: Rockford, 1873-5; Wataga and Peoria, 1875-7; Batavia and Geneva, 1877-9; Evanston, 1879-82; Moline, 1882-4; Omaha, 1884-5; Chicago, as city missionary, 1885-8; Evanston, as solicitor for the seminary, 1888-90.

In 1890 he was declared superannuated, but continued to serve until 1899, preaching at Moreland, in the Emanuel Church of Chicago, at Austin and, lastly, at Ottawa. Having lost his first wife in 1885, he remarried in old age. In the early nineties, at the request of the Swedish Northwestern Conference, he published his autobiography, a very minute account of his life and labors. Enfeebled by the burden of years, he died in his home in Chicago on Oct. 27, 1902, at the mature age of ninety.

In his years of activity Newman was a faithful laborer in the Lord's vineyard. While not an orator in the common acceptance of the term, yet his words left a deep and lasting impression. What he lacked in brilliancy and scholarly attainments was amply made up in zeal and devotion to his calling.

Rev. Peter Newberg

One of the first five members of the first Swedish Methodist church was Peter Newberg, afterward one of Jonas Hedström's most faithful and reliable fellow workers. Newberg was born at Luleå, Jan. 7, 1818. At the age of eight he lost his father, a sailor, and as a boy of fourteen he also went to sea, driven by the necessity of contributing to the support of his widowed mother. For fifteen years he shipped with merchantmen under various flags.

In the spring of 1846 he mustered at Gefle as ship's carpenter on a vessel bound for New York carrying a large party of Erie Janssonists. On reaching harbor he left the vessel and accompanied the emigrants to Bishop Hill, but soon left the colony in disappointment, going first to Lafayette and then to Victoria, where he remained with Hedström over winter as his helper in making plows. The following spring he left for Peoria, where he was employed for some time in the building trade, working for a Swedish contractor or architect named Ulrieson, who had lived there for so many years that he had forgotten his mother tongue. In the fall he returned to Victoria and was there married.



Rev. Peter Newberg

In the spring of 1850 he joined the aforementioned party of goldseekers and went to California. Returning in 1857, he located at Victoria, where he had a farm, and also engaged in house building in partnership with Peter Challman. In 1853, when the latter left his trade to devote himself exclusively to preaching, Newberg continued as building contractor on his own account. Among other buildings erected by him was the Swedish Methodist Church edifice at Victoria, dedicated at midsummer, 1854.

While en route to America, he was subject to the religious influence of his fellow travelers, the Erik Janssonists; upon his arrival he came under the influence of Hedström, and at a camp meeting in the Victoria grove, in the summer of 1853, he was converted and accepted the Methodist faith. Thereafter he began to take turns with the other preachers in making circuit visits, and in 1856 he was received on probation by the Peoria Conference and assigned to New Sweden, Ia.

as minister in charge. There he labored for two years, besides establishing a small congregation in the country just west of Burlington. For a year, 1858-9, he served the Andover circuit and the following year, 1859-60, that of Galesburg. His ordination as deacon took place in 1857, and in 1860 he was promoted to the office of elder. From Galesburg he was transferred to Victoria, where he served for two years, until 1862. His subsequent fields were: New Sweden, Ia., 1864-5, Rockford 1865-6, Victoria 1866-72, Swedona 1872-3. After that he was not directly in charge of any church, but lived on his farm at Victoria. When occasion required, however, he would assist the other preachers in their work. Thus, in 1881, he went to Texas to aid Rev. Victor Witting in the mission field. He died Jan. 13, 1882, at Austin, aged 64 years.

Newberg was a man of but mediocre mental equipment, lacked education and mastery of speech, yet was a rather popular preacher withal. The secret of it lay in his originality, his art of presenting old truths in new garb and of drawing striking applications from his own varied experience. He was a devout man, who lived in strict accordance with his teaching.

Rev. Victor Witting

The tenth, and last, of the co-workers of Hedström, was Victor Witting. This man was to play a prominent and many-sided part in the work and progress of the Swedish-American Methodist denomination. Alike as an eminent preacher, a skillful organizer, a journalist and author, this venerable pioneer has made himself a name that will ever rank with the foremost in the history of Swedish Methodism.

Witting was born in Malmö on March 7, 1825. His father, Anders Johan Witting, captain of the Vendes artillery regiment, was a descendant of a Finnish family, which had originally immigrated from Livonia and in the seventeenth century had been raised to noble rank. His mother, Gustafva Helena Rydberg, was a daughter of Postmaster Rydberg in Malmö. In the early thirties, Captain Witting removed to Landskrona, having been made chief officer of a battery of his regiment assigned to service in that city. His son Victor now entered the Latin school there, and in 1836, when his father retired from military service and moved back to Malmö, Victor entered the collegiate school there. He left this school intending to prepare for college graduation and admittance to the university of Lund, but instead of carrying out this plan he obtained a position with an apothecary and began to study pharmacy. In his early youth he had acquired some knowledge and more admiration of this country through reading the

history of the United States and the novels of James Fenimore Cooper and other writers, and when in the summer of 1841 the newspapers related that an Upsala student by the name of Gustaf Unonius, heading a small party, had departed for the new and wonderful western world to found a settlement there, young Witting's longing for America became stronger than ever and he began devising plans of his own for reaching the New World. To him the only possible way was to become a sailor. He brooded over the matter incessantly for two years, until one day, Easter morning, 1843, just as his apprenticeship was at an end and he was about to take the apothecary's examination, he suddenly deserted the drug store with its pills and powders and went across to Helsingör, whence he hoped to ship as a sailor. For want of a passport the plan miscarried and he was obliged to return home. Having obtained his father's permission to go to sea, he soon afterward shipped from Malmö, making several trips to England in the next two years, after which he entered the school of navigation at Malmö and passed the shipmaster's examination in 1845. In May he went to Gefle hoping to be commissioned for a long trip on some large merchant vessel. After making a short summer trip to England with the bark "Fama," when he formed the acquaintance of the aforesaid Peter Newberg, who was the ship's carpenter, he engaged to take the ship "Ceres," with a cargo of iron, from Söderhamn to New York. Thus at last his long cherished desire to get to America was to be fulfilled.

On board this vessel was a small party of Erik Janssonists, forerunners of the subsequent exodus of that sect. Off Öregrund, during a dark and stormy night, the ship grounded and all on board probably would have perished but for the fact that the vessel was so firmly wedged between two rocks that the heavy seas which broke over it could not dislodge it. The passengers and crew spent the night in the forecastle amid indescribable horrors. That night young Witting received impressions that gave to his life a different course. Profoundly impressed with the resignation and Christian fortitude shown by the Erik Janssonists in the very face of death, he made a resolve to become a Christian, should he survive that dreadful night, and, if he ever reached America, to look up these people.

The following day they were taken off the wreck, and Witting went to Gefle, where he mustered on the ship "Gustaf Vasa," bound for the Mediterranean. Returning, he sailed for two years between Gefle and other ports. While at Stockholm in the summer of 1847, he heard that a brig was about to sail for America with a party of Erik Janssonists. Witting engaged to earn his passage by acting as steward to the passengers. In October, after a voyage of six or seven

weeks, they reached New York, and the one chief goal of his longing had been reached at last.

He accompanied the Erik Janssonists westward. At Chicago Witting was taken sick and brought to a hospital. After having been restored to health, he obtained work in a drug store and formed the acquaintance of his fellow countrymen in that city. Late in the summer of 1848, he accompanied a newly arrived party of Erik Janssonists to Bishop Hill, thereby fulfilling his solemn promise on the night of the shipwreck. With the very best opinion of the Erik Janssonists and with high expectations of their colony, Witting arrived at Bishop Hill. He had supposed that all was harmony there, and that the colonists "lived secure in dwellings of peace," but he found quite the reverse—strife and discontent over Erik Jansson's despotic rule and the miserable state of affairs. Witting therefore remained only about a year and a half. In the late fall of 1849 he began planning for his departure and left on Christmas Eve, leaving behind him his young wife, whom he had wedded in the colony. He repaired to Victoria, and through Rev. Hedström obtained a position with a druggist in Galesburg, where he began work on New Year's day, 1850.

At that time there were in Galesburg about twenty Swedish families and quite a number of unmarried Swedes of both sexes, probably a total of a hundred persons, nearly all of them former Erik Janssonists. Not a few already had been won over to Methodism. Hedström and Challman in turn conducted the meetings. Witting and his wife attended regularly, joining the little Swedish Methodist Church in February. It was in the days of the gold fever, and Witting joined the party of Swedish goldseekers. The journey as well as the stay in California was rich in adventures and novel experiences. Reaching the gold country he went to digging like everybody else and once was about to "strike it rich" but failed on account of the irresolution of his comrade. From the diggings which they abandoned a Scotchman and his two sons subsequently took out a small fortune in a few weeks.

Tired and disappointed with life in the gold fields, Witting left California in April, 1852, with just enough gold to pay his way back, arriving in Galesburg just before midsummer. In July he removed to Victoria, where he and Erik Shogren attempted to make a fortune by cultivating medicinal herbs. After two years they gave it up as a failure. The first year a shipment of herbs to Cincinnati was lost in transit; the second year Witting, who was now alone in the enterprise, had to sell a large New York shipment at great sacrifice, leaving him without money enough to get home. These reverses almost drove the sanguine and energetic young man to despair. But when all his plans

failed, he sought comfort in religion. A few visits to an American Methodist church in New York set his troubled mind at ease and inspired him with new courage. Having obtained a sum of money from the kindhearted Rev. O. G. Hedström, he returned to Illinois.

His trip to New York proved the turning-point in Witting's life. Almost immediately after his return to Victoria, he began to preach at small Methodist gatherings in private houses and was shortly afterwards appointed class leader. In the fall he obtained employment in a drug store in Peoria and began preaching to the handful of Swedes then found in that city. At the suggestion of Presiding Elder Henry Summers he now resolved to devote himself wholly to pastoral work and, having been admitted to the Rock River Conference on probation, in September, 1855, was stationed at Andover. Thus, after a varied career on land and sea, he finally found his proper sphere and settled down to his life's work, spending a long term of years in fruitful labor in behalf of the Methodist Church.

From now on Witting devoted himself unsparingly to his calling. In 1858 he was appointed to the charge at Victoria and in 1860 transferred to Rockford. In 1859 the idea of establishing a seminary for the education of ministers and founding a newspaper as the organ of the Swedish Methodists was advanced, but not until the spring of 1862 did the latter plan materialize, and then chiefly through the efforts of Witting. At a meeting of ministers in Chicago he volunteered, if a paper were started, to edit it for one year without salary. It was unanimously resolved to launch the enterprise and Witting's offer was gratefully accepted. This paper was named "Sändebudet" (The Messenger) and was published at Rockford, the first number appearing July 18th of that year. After occupying the editor's chair for some two and one-half years, having resigned from his pastoral charge in 1863, Witting left the paper, which in November, 1864, was moved to Chicago. The foregoing year he had taken up the school question for discussion in its columns and was gratified to find his plan so generally favored that during the year 1866, the centenary of Methodism, a school fund was subscribed. The school was not opened until New Year's, 1870, Witting serving meanwhile partly as the financial agent of the school project, partly again as editor of "Sändebudet."

In 1865 the Methodists began missionary work in Sweden, but their efforts met with little success. Witting was the first to put life into that work. After having obtained leave of absence, Witting went to Sweden in May, 1867, at the expense of a private individual. He soon attracted large audiences there, and in a short time Methodism became firmly rooted, especially in the capital. At the instance of Bishop Kingsley of the Methodist Episcopal Church, who was then

visiting Sweden, Witting resolved to remain to prosecute the work which he successfully started. He hurried back to America to bring his family over, returning to Göteborg in November.



Rev. Victor Witting

It would carry us far out of our way to describe in detail Witting's mission in Sweden. Suffice it to say that with him as superintendent the work was prosecuted with great energy, several congregations being organized and churches built. But it was not all smooth sailing.

The authorities made trouble for the Methodist workers, several of whom were fined for disregarding the injunctions of church councils against public preaching by dissenters. But these obstacles were removed by the passage of the Dissenters Law of 1873, proposed by the government, passed by the riksdag with certain modifications relating to obligatory religious instruction of the young, and finally sanctioned by the king, its effect being materially to extend religious liberty in the country. The following year the Methodists of Sweden resolved to avail themselves of the right granted by that law to leave the state church and organize a denomination of their own, with government sanction. In February, 1875, a delegation of ten Methodist clergymen and laymen had an audience with the king, laying before him a petition with about 1,200 signatures, asking the privilege of uniting into a separate church body. The petition was granted March 10, 1876, that act securing forever the rights of the Methodist Church in Sweden. As may be readily understood, this was a day of triumph for Witting himself. On the 22nd of August following the Methodist missions were combined in a conference.

After ten years' work in Sweden, during which period Methodism made headway and gained permanence, Witting in 1877 returned to the United States. After preaching for a short time in Chicago, he was sent back to Sweden in the capacity of superintendent of the Methodist Church of Sweden. His term of service was, however, cut short by his leaving the Methodist Church, for reasons unexplained, and returning to America in the spring of 1879. The following year he founded a devotional monthly, entitled "Stilla Stunder," which was published in Chicago for two years. This breach between him and the church he had served for a quarter of a century was of brief duration. Having again joined the church, he was for the third time made editor of its organ, "Sändebudet," serving as such from 1883 to 1889. In the latter year he was appointed pastor of the Swedish Methodist Church at Quinsigamond, Mass., where he resumed publication of "Stilla Stunder." The following Christmas he published an annual entitled, "Bethlehemsstjernan," which never again appeared. In 1895, at the age of more than seventy, he was made editor of a weekly, known as "Österns Sändebud." While laboring as pastor and editor, Witting found time for quite extensive literary pursuits. As a writer and translator of religious songs he has undoubtedly rendered his church greater service than any other Swedish clergyman. The hymnal used by the Methodists of Sweden for many years contains a large number of hymns written or translated by him, and it is generally conceded that the best Swedish translations of the well-known songs of Charles Wesley have been made by Witting. He has published

at his own expense several excellent collections of songs for prayer meetings, and for home devotion, which are still extensively used. His chief literary work, however, comprises his memoirs, embodied in a volume entitled, "Minnen från mitt lif som sjöman, immigrant och predikant." The first edition of this work was published in 1901, followed in 1904 by a second edition, revised and augmented. This work is especially valuable for its rich contributions to the early chapters of Swedish-American history.

Witting, who spent his later years at his home in Quincy, Mass., died July 2, 1906, his wife having passed away a few years earlier. Two of his daughters are married to Methodist ministers.

Other pioneers of the Swedish Methodist Church of America are Olof Hamrén, whose field of labor was western New York, and Samuel Anderson and John Fridlund, both of Minnesota.

The Early Swedish Methodist Churches

At the period here dealt with the preacher's calling was no sinecure. The country was sparsely settled, with small settlements from ten to twenty miles apart, the settlers were poor, dwelling in small, stuffy huts or dugouts, and the absence of roads and bridges made traveling difficult. The daily routine of a frontier preacher was somewhat on this order: a wearisome journey, mostly on horseback, but often afoot; arriving towards nightfall at some lone settler's cabin, a blockhouse at best, with a single room; preaching in the evening to a score of persons, children included; sharing with the inmates their only bed; breakfasting on cornbread and molasses; then proceeding on his way to the next settlement, there to repeat the selfsame experience, and so on for weeks and months. Owing to the suspicion, not to say hostility, anent the Methodists prevailing among the Swedish settlers, they would ofttimes shut their doors in the face of the itinerant preachers, who were thus compelled to spend their nights in the woods or on the open prairie. With Christian fortitude they submitted to all this, looking upon their calling as a work of love, not a means of livelihood. The majority of them sustained serious financial losses from chosing the minister's calling, being able to earn more at their respective trades than afterwards in the ministry. The highest annual salary received by any of them did not exceed $400. Some got only $100 to $150 a year. A certain preacher with a wife and three children had to get along on $90 for the first year, averaging 25 cents a day. With this modest competence went the duty of serving an entire circuit viz., Moline-New Boston, involving monthly trips of some two hundred miles with horse and buggy. He was able to make only an occasional visit to his family, living in a blockhouse forty miles away.

During these early days it was customary for a clergyman to preach three times every Sunday and three or four times on week days, going from place to place, stops being made five to eight miles apart. In the spring and fall in particular, the roads would be extremely heavy, in fact impassable for vehicles, and then horseback riding was the only possible mode of travel. Sometimes the deep, sticky mud proved too much even for the saddle horses, and as a last resort the preacher, with his trousers tucked into his boot-tops, had to foot it through miles of mud and water. Under such strenuous conditions a Methodist minister naturally did not put on flesh, but these daily constitutionals kept his body agile and his spirits fresh and buoyant.

Such was the preacher's life in those days. All the Methodist ministers traveled about in like manner the year around. That was quite different from present conditions, which permit the preachers to remain for at least two years in each place, enjoying comfortable homes and other advantages.

The First Swedish Methodist Church in America

It was during the period just described that the first Swedish Methodist churches were organized in Illinois. As stated in foregoing pages, the very first was that at Victoria, founded Dec. 15, 1846, by Jonas Hedström, who on that occasion preached his first sermon. The first members were five all told. This was the small beginning of a movement which soon extended to all the surrounding towns and settlements, wherever Swedes were living, and from these districts came many of the pioneer clergymen. The early settlers at Victoria, with few exceptions, had been Erik Janssonists. Possessing more than ordinary knowledge of the Scriptures, they soon became firmly rooted in the Methodist faith. They took religion seriously, these pioneer settlers. The entire settlement of Victoria became so thoroughly imbued with Methodism that to this day all attempts of other denominations to gain a foothold there have proved futile.

The little church after two years numbered ninety members. At first the meetings were held either in a schoolhouse or in private houses. In the latter instance, it was customary for those attending the meetings to bring their own chairs and candles. In the late summer of 1853 the church building was begun, and it was completed and dedicated the following spring. This, the first Swedish Methodist church in the state, still stands as a landmark and reminder of Swedish pioneer days in Illinois. A steeple was added to the structure in later years. In the late fall of 1858 the adjoining parsonage was built. In 1857 the large Victoria circuit was divided into three, Victoria, Gales-

burg and Andover forming independent congregations, each with its own pastor. A year later three new fields were taken up, viz., Kewanee, Nekoma and Oneida. The mother church at Victoria in 1905 numbered 105 adult members. The baptized children are not counted as members in Methodist statistics as the case is in some other churches.

The Work at Andover

The second in point of age among the Swedish Methodist churches of Illinois is that of Andover. The date of Jonas Hedström's first visit



The Swedish M. E. Church in Victoria

to the Swedes of Andover is not known, but it might well have been as early as 1847, while the settlers were still few in number. When in 1849 Rev. Gustaf Unonius visited Andover he found cause for complaint in the fact that "a large part of the people had been converted to Methodism and much religious strife and disorder prevailed." In the latter part of July the same year, Jonas Hedström was in Andover to meet a party of immigrants ravaged by cholera. After having distributed food and medicines among the sick and emaciated newcomers, he was kept busy night and day procuring lodgings for them. On Sunday, Aug. 12th, he preached a touching funeral sermon at the biers

of the latest victims of the pest, and two weeks later, Sunday, Aug. 26th, while the hearts of the immigrants were still pliant from suffering, he chose as the opportune time to organize a Methodist congregation. Those who joined were, Anna Lovisa Gustafsson, who had just lost both her parents, her husband, three children and a brother; Nils J. Johansson and wife; one Fröberg and wife; Helena Hurtig, a widow whose husband also had recently died of the cholera; Marta Olsson; Nils Olsson and wife; Åke Olsson and wife; E. P. Andersson and, on the following day, Mrs. H. Alm.

The congregation was organized at "Captain Mix's place," a large farm with good buildings, located near the southeast corner of the



The Swedish M. E. Church in Andover

village. This was now purchased by the widow Gustafsson, on the advice of Hedström, and became the home of herself, her daughter Mary, a girl of seven, her sisters Caroline and Mary and her brother John M. Ericksson. She was born in Hägerstad, Östergötland, April 13, 1821; at twenty she married Gustaf Gustafsson and in the summer of 1849 they emigrated to America, with the aforesaid party. Being widowed shortly after reaching Andover, she remarried in 1851, becoming the wife of Otto Lobeck, a Pomeranian, removed with him to Omaha, Neb., in 1884, became a widow again in 1890, and died in Fremont, Neb., March 30, 1903. At her home in Andover also the Swedish Lutheran Church of that place was organized March 18, 1850. Mrs. Lobeck to her death remained faithful to the Swedish Methodist Church by which she was regarded as a venerable mother and held in high esteem.

The Swedish Methodist flock of Andover increased rapidly, numbering in 1850 no less than 74 members, mostly residents of that place. A church edifice was begun and almost completed in 1854 and the following year the parsonage was erected. In August, 1855, the first Swedish Methodist camp meeting held in this country took place here. Two years later Rev. Hedström, at the annual camp meeting in Andover, preached his farewell sermon to his Methodist brethren, it being probably the most stirring address ever made by that fiery leader and organizer. During this early period the Andover minister had pastoral charge of eight other places, namely, Rock Island, Moline, Berlin (now Swedona), Hickory Grove (now Ophiem), LaGrange (now Orion), Geneseo, Pope Creek (now Ontario) and New Boston. In 1862 Moline was made a separate charge, as was Swedona in 1864. In 1905 the Andover church numbered 117 members.

The Galesburg Church

The third oldest Swedish Methodist congregation is that of Galesburg. As early as 1848 Rev. Hedström began his visits there and in September the following year he organized a church, despite religious indifference on the one hand and direct opposition on the other. Its first members were, Linde, a shoemaker, and his wife, Erik Grip and wife, Gustaf Berglund and wife, Mrs. Thorsell, widow of a shoemaker, Christina Muhr, married later to A. Cassel of Wataga, Nils Hedström and wife, besides others. The opposition grew still more bitter when half a year later a Swedish Lutheran church also was organized in Galesburg. In the spring of 1852, a powerful Baptist movement arose to shake the little Methodist church in its very foundations. Several of its members were re-baptized. Even its young pastor, Rev. A. G. Swedberg, was converted to Baptism and took the sacrament of immersion. This movement, however, was of short duration and so superficial that several of the converts soon returned to their former church.

In spite of continued opposition both from Swedes and Americans —the latter being chiefly the Presbyterians and the Congregationalists, who thought their own churches sufficient for the needs of the community—the struggling little church continued to grow, making a house of worship a necessity. In 1850 a subscription was started for that purpose. Jonas Hedström's most formidable opponent was Jonathan Blanchard, president of Knox College. Through his influence, it was said, many Americans withdrew their subscriptions to the Swedish Methodist church building fund. As a side light on Hedström's character the following instance may be quoted. During a hot

set-to between Blanchard and Hedström, the latter is reported to have said to his opponent, "Do you see the sun in the heavens? You might as well try to stop him in his course as to attempt to shut the Methodists out of Galesburg. We have come here to stay."

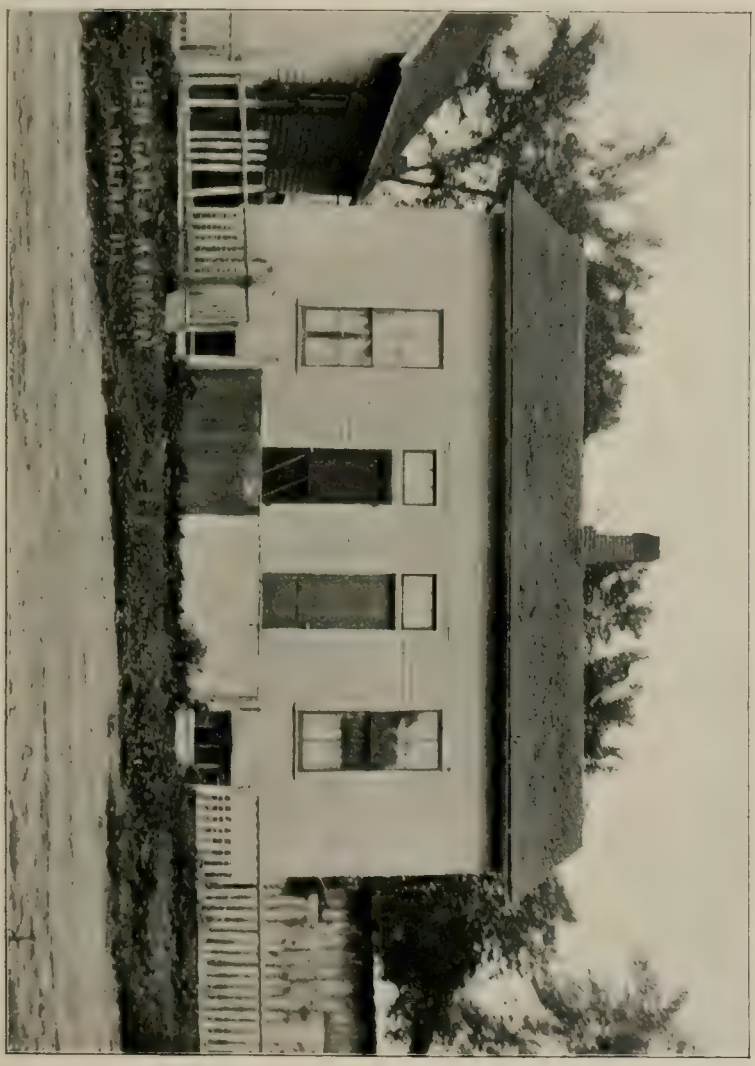
The Swedish Methodists could not be made to abandon their plan to build a church. At the suggestion of some of the leading men in the American Methodist Church, which was not much larger than the Swedish one, it was decided in the fall of 1851 that the two congregations should erect a common edifice, in which both should worship in turn, according to specific agreement, so that on the days when the Americans held their services in the morning, the Swedes were to hold theirs in the afternoon or evening, and vice versa. The edifice was built and dedicated the following year. It was a light and cheerful sanctuary, with a seating capacity of about 200. Great was the joy of the Swedes over the new house of worship, which they justly considered theirs in part. But their joy was soon spoiled. Some sharp individual among the members of the American congregation soon made the "discovery" that, according to the wording of the papers, the Swedish people legally had no claim to ownership whatever. This caused much friction, and at a subsequent meeting of the trustees, two of whom were Swedes and three Americans, it was resolved, in the presence of Hedström, and over the vigorous protests of himself and the Swedish trustees, that the church was the exclusive property of the American Methodist congregation, and that the Swedes had no more property right in it than any other people who, by subscription or other efforts, had assisted in its erection. By that decision the Swedish congregation was ousted and again stood without a church home.

This misfortune befell the church at the time when its pastor, Rev. Swedberg, and about half of its membership, twelve to fifteen young and energetic persons, deserted the flock and joined the Baptists. The remaining ones, however, continued the work, hoping for better days to dawn, and their hopes were not in vain. New members were added, and nearly all of the deserters returned to the fold. In the surrounding country missionary work was begun in the years 1855-7 at the following points, Knoxville, Wataga, Abingdon, Monmouth and Oquawka. Late in the year 1856 a small church was erected which was dedicated New Year's Day, 1857. That same year the congregation was made independent, then numbering 69 members. In 1863 the little church building was moved to a larger lot in a more desirable location and two years later an addition was built at a cost of a little over $1,300. In 1872 the present large and imposing edifice was erected at a cost of $18,000. In the middle sixties an independent church was

formed at Wataga, decreasing the membership by fifty. In 1905 the Galesburg church had a total membership of 300.

Operations in Moline and Rock Island

Swedish immigration to Moline and Rock Island had scarcely begun when the wide-awake Rev. Hedström went there to preach to his



The Old Swedish M. E. Church in Moline

countrymen. The first man that took kindly to him was Olaus Bengtsson, one of Moline's Swedish pioneers. Rev. Hedström lived in his house whenever he visited Moline, and in that same house the Swedish

Methodist Church was organized, presumably in September, 1849, and held its meetings there during the first ten years of its existence. Only seven persons joined the church at its organization, these being Olaus Bengtsson and his wife, three other persons in Moline and two from Rock Island. During the first few years the growth was very slow, the total number of members in 1855 being only 18 or 20, and three years later showing only a slight increase over that figure. The chief reason for this slow progress lay in the energetic work done by the newly arrived Swedish Lutheran pastor, Rev. O. C. T. Andrén, causing the majority of immigrants with religious interests to join his church. In 1859-61, after immigrants had arrived in great numbers, things began to look brighter for the Methodists in Moline, their services were better attended, and in 1860 they could dedicate a little church which had just been erected.

In 1862 the Moline Swedish Methodists were organized into a separate congregation, independent of the Andover church, and with a pastor of their own. The subsequent year, Moline was combined with Swedona, and in 1867 Geneseo was also added to the circuit, a small congregation having been organized in the latter place in 1864 and a little church erected. In 1871 the Moline congregation sold its church building, which was now inadequate, and purchased from an American congregation a larger building which was moved to a new location, where it was used until 1889, the year of the erection of the present still more commodious temple of worship. In 1871 a parsonage was built which four years later was rebuilt and enlarged. The total membership in 1905 reached 202.

During the years 1852-5 there existed in Rock Island a small but vigorous congregation of Swedish Methodists, consisting largely of girls in the employ of American families, but soon most of these girls left the city, almost depleting the church as early as 1856. In 1854 this congregation is said to have owned a small church building which seems to have been disposed of long ago.

The Chicago Field

Swedish Methodism in Chicago dates back to 1852. In the fall of that year Rev. O. G. Hedström of New York visited that city on his way to his brother in Victoria. Here he had an opportunity to preach for several successive days in the Norwegian, subsequently Swedish Lutheran church on Superior street. Large crowds went to hear him, and Hedström is said to have preached with such power that "there was weeping throughout the church, from the pulpit down to the last pew." In December, on his return to New York, he again visited

Chicago, accompanied by his brother Jonas. Here they stopped a couple of weeks. The Superior street church being now closed to them, they conducted their meetings in the Bethel Chapel, or Seamen's Mission, on Wells street, between Michigan and Illinois streets, and here, in December, 1852, the foundation was laid for a Swedish, or rather Scandinavian, Methodist church in Chicago. There is no doubt that this work tended to hurry the organization of the Swedish Lutheran Immanuel Church of Chicago, which took place in January, 1853. Rev. Jonas Hedström remained in the city a few days after his brother had left for New York, in order to encourage the little flock, and give it a good start, services doubtless well needed in a congregation made up of many heterogeneous elements. The membership at the beginning is said to have reached 75, but hardly had Jonas Hedström left the city before more than two-thirds of these deserted and joined the Swedish Lutheran Church just then in process of organization. A mere handful of them remained in the Methodist fold.

In order to save the wreckage, Rev. O. G. Hedström, shortly after his return to New York, sent his assistant, S. B. Newman, to Chicago. His task consisted in gathering the remnant of the church and, with that as a nucleus, form a practically new congregation. In the latter part of January, Rev. Jonas Hedström returned from Victoria, and the two worked so earnestly that in February the number of new members received on probation reached 65. In September of the same year this number had grown to 123, this, however, including a few in St. Charles, Ill., and about 30 in Poolsville, Ind., where a church had been organized in August.

Captain Charles Magnus Lindgren

Among those joining the congregation that year was C. M. Lindgren, a sea captain, who almost immediately became one of the chief supports of Swedish Methodism in Chicago. Lindgren was born in Dragsmark, Bohuslän, Nov. 28, 1819, went to sea at the age of 14, and sailed until 1849, when he went to California, remaining there for three years, first as a goldwasher and later engaged in the freight traffic. In the spring of 1852 he returned to his native land, was there married to Johanna Andersson, returned to America in September and arrived in Chicago in November of the same year. Here he opened a livery stable on Illinois street, but, finding this unprofitable, entered into a railway project together with the Erik Janssonists of Bishop Hill and settled in 1854 at Toulon, Henry county, a few miles from Galva. In the spring of 1856 he came back to Chicago, bought a couple of freight vessels and contracted with a lumber company for shipping lumber

from Michigan to Chicago. At first this proved exceedingly profitable, but suddenly the company failed, involving Lindgren in heavy losses. Subsequently he removed to Montgomery, a small town on the Burlington railroad, about fifty miles from Chicago, where he set up as a manufacturer of machinery, but soon failed. In the fall of 1860 he again came to Chicago and engaged in shipping, first with a good-sized freighter with which he succeeded so well that he was soon able to



Capt. Charles Magnus Lindgren

exchange it for a still larger vessel. Fortune now steadily favored him, and he gradually added vessel after vessel until in 1870 he owned half a dozen ships with a combined tonnage of 4,500. Several of these were among the largest in the lake trade at that time. The following year he had three more large freighters built at Manitowoc, Wis., one of which was named "Christina Nilsson," after the great Swedish singer who visited America that year.

Failing health in 1877 compelled his retirement from business. That summer he took a trip to the old country. His condition, however

grew worse and on September 1, 1879, he died at his home in Evanston, aged 60 years.

Captain Lindgren was a man of extraordinary activity and a kind and philanthropic man withal, who did much for his less fortunate fellow countrymen. His wife was equally kind-hearted. Lindgren was particularly liberal toward the struggling little Swedish Methodist Church in Chicago. Without his aid it would not have accomplished what it did. When in later years the Swedish Methodist Theological Seminary was founded here, Lindgren contributed generously toward its erection and maintenance.

In the spring of 1854 the young Methodist congregation decided to build a church of their own. During the summer Rev. Newman made a trip to his former field of labor in the South to solicit funds for that purpose, and met with great success. The edifice, which was erected on Illinois street, near Market, was completed in the fall and dedicated in October or November, by Rev. O. G. Hedström. The back part of the structure constituted the parsonage.

In those days it was a common occurrence that the meetings of the Swedish Methodists in Chicago and elsewhere were disturbed by drunken rowdies. Frequently the preacher would be interrupted in the midst of his discourse by hideous yells or by the hurling of stones or other missiles, aimed at the speaker, through the windows. After services, crowds of hoodlums would gather outside the sanctuary, jeering and molesting the worshipers as they were coming out. Time and again, these people, both ministers and laymen, were the objects not only of threats, but of open attacks. The aforesaid Captain Lindgren, who was a man possessed of both courage and physical strength, was often obliged to act as a sort of special policeman at the meetings. On one occasion, when he undertook to escort the leader of a gang of disturbers out of the church, the culprit drew a knife, seriously wounding Captain Lindgren. This brutal crime, committed in the house of God, was brought to trial and the perpetrator was severely punished, while several other disturbers were arrested and fined. This example had a wholesome effect, disturbances became less frequent, and soon the Swedish Methodists were permitted to worship unmolested.

The summer of 1854, when the cholera broke out in Chicago, was fraught with many trials for Rev. Newman and his flock. The noble work of relief accomplished by Newman and other Swedish pastors of Chicago is recounted elsewhere in these pages. About this time, also, his field was widened by work being begun in Beaver, St. Charles and Rockford, Ill., and at Attica, LaFayette, LaPorte and other points in Indiana.

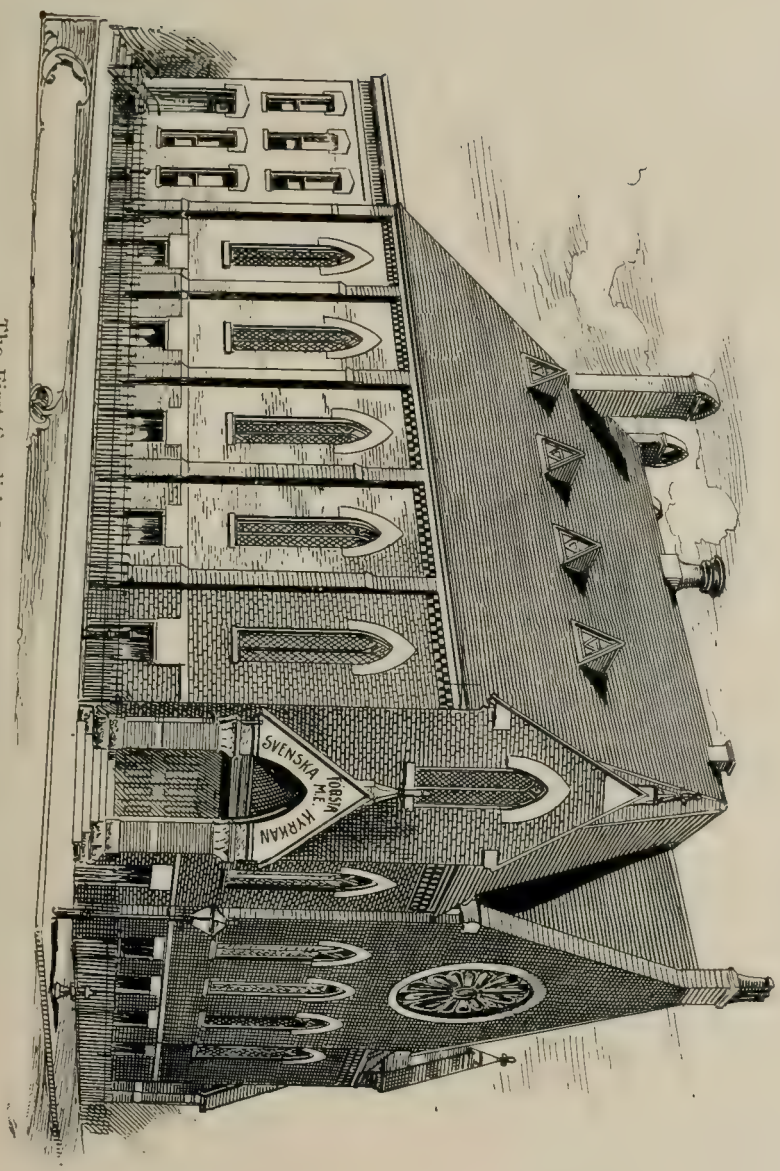
In September, 1855, Newman returned to his former place in New

York as assistant to Rev. O. G. Hedström, Rev. Erik Shogren succeeding him in Chicago, where he labored for four years, until 1859, when he, in turn, was succeeded by Jakob Bredberg. At this time two young and gifted men, A. J. Anderson and N. O. Westergreen, joined the church, both of whom in later years became prominent clergymen in the Swedish Methodist Church.

Rev. Jacob Bredberg

The aforesaid Jakob Bredberg was in some respects one of the notable men in the Swedish Methodist clergy. He was born in the city of Alingsas, Sweden, May 1, 1808, completed his college course at twenty-one and was ordained minister in 1832. Having served for twenty years as curate in Sweden, he emigrated in 1853. Like his former colleague, Rev. C. P. Agrelius, a few years earlier, Bredberg became acquainted with Rev. Hedström in New York and joined the Methodists, was subsequently in charge of the Swedish Methodist Church at Jamestown, N. Y., for four years, until 1859, when he came to Chicago. During his first year here the work progressed nicely, Rev. Bredberg's eloquence and his reputation for great learning attracting good audiences. But the second year marked a complete change. Then it was discovered that he was indifferent to the interests of his church even to the extent of planning to leave the Methodists and join another denomination. This lost him the confidence of the parishioners and caused a falling off in attendance and a gloomy outlook generally. In the fall of 1861 the anticipated flop took place, when Bredberg went over to the Episcopalians and became pastor of the St. Ansgarius Church in Chicago, occupying that pulpit until 1877, when old age and sickness compelled his retirement. Alongside of his pastoral work, Rev. Bredberg engaged to some extent in literary pursuits, such as editing a Swedish Methodist hymnal, the contents of which were partly compiled, partly translated by him, and later translating the English Episcopal ritual and a number of English, French and Bohemian tracts into Swedish.

In the condition just described A. J. Anderson found the Swedish Methodist Church when he took charge of it in the fall of 1861. The church edifice was in so bad repair as to be almost condemnable. Sunday school had been discontinued, class meetings, prayer meetings and the customary forms of Christian activity had been abandoned. Furthermore, the congregation was still heavily in debt from the time the church was built. Rev. Anderson succeeded, however, in putting new life into the work; the church was rebuilt in 1863, and through his efforts the membership increased by 160 in the period from 1861 to 1864



The First Swedish M.-E. Church of Chicago

making a total of 210. The Sunday school numbered 130 pupils and the church property, now free of debt, was valued at $8,000.

During the following year, while Rev. Shogren was in charge, another hundred members were added, and the attendance at services was so great that the congregation had to choose between securing a larger house of worship or dividing into two flocks. They chose the latter alternative; an American Methodist church on the west side was purchased and moved to the corner of Fourth and Sangamon streets, and thenceforth regular services were held also in this part of the city. This was in April, 1865. The next fall Shogren was succeeded by Rev. N. O. Westergreen, whose three years of service, 1865-8, were characterized by steady progress. Up to 1867 Swedes and Norwegians had worshiped under one roof as members of the same church, but about that time it became apparent that it was better for all concerned that the Norwegians separated and formed a congregation of their own. This was done and the second church building was turned over to the Norwegians, most of whom were living on the west side. This marked the beginning of Norwegian Methodism in Chicago.

During the years 1868 to 1870 Rev. Nils Peterson was pastor of the church. The congregation at that time purchased the lot at the corner of Market and Oak street where later its present church was built. Rev. Peterson was succeeded by Rev. A. J. Anderson, who labored here for three years up to 1873. In the great fire of 1871 the church on Illinois street was destroyed, as were the other Swedish churches of the city. This disaster was the turning-point in the history of the Swedish Methodists of Chicago. For a time they held their services in the newly built Norwegian Methodist church on Indiana street. But after the fire the influx of Swedes to the west side increased, and for that reason it was found expedient also to make it the religious center. In pursuance of this purpose the lot on Illinois street was traded for one on May street, where the present Swedish Methodist church on the west side was then erected. A small dwelling-house situated on the lot was remodeled into a parsonage. The basement of the church was finished in 1872 and the entire edifice was not completed until 1878.

On the north side a temporary chapel was built simultaneously. In the summer of 1875 it was removed to make room for the Swedish Methodist church, which was not completed until 1879, during the incumbency of Rev. D. S. Sörlin, when a parsonage also was built. From 1873 to 1875 its pastor was Rev. E. Shogren, assisted by Rev. Alfred Anderson, and in 1875-6 Rev. N. O. Westergreen was in charge. Although there was a church on the west side, Swedish Methodists living there still belonged to the north side church until 1875, when a formal division of the congregation took place and the westsiders

formed a separate church and received their own pastor, Rev. D. S. Sörlin, the following year. In 1876 Rev. Witting, just returned from Sweden, was assigned to the north side church, serving it for one year. On the south side work was begun by the Swedish Methodists about this time, resulting in the organization of a congregation in 1876, with Rev. Fredrik Åhgren as its first pastor. The progress of these churches up to the present time can only be indicated here by means of the following statistics of membership for the year 1905, to-wit: the First Swedish Methodist Episcopal Church 425, the west side church 168 and the south side church 200.

The Beaver Settlement

About 75 miles southeast from Chicago, in Iroquois county, a Swedish settlement, named Beaver, was founded in 1853. There a Swedish Methodist church was started May 4, 1854, with nine members. The next year the missions in Indiana were organized into a separate circuit, comprising Attica, Poolsville, LaFayette, Yorktown and Buena Vista, with Attica as the headquarters. To this circuit Beaver was now added. In 1863 the congregation in Attica disbanded, the church was sold, work ceased entirely and the pastor removed to Beaver, which thus became the principal missionary station of the circuit. A church had been built there in 1860. Work at this point grew still more difficult when in 1870 a Swedish Lutheran congregation was founded there, its church edifice and parsonage being built the following year. The Lutherans, however, had little success owing to the fact that their members arrived later to Beaver and consequently had to settle on poorer land, where they hardly could make their living. Therefore they had to sell their farms and move to other parts of the country, their number was gradually decimated, the pastor left and finally the church closed its doors. The field was thus abandoned to the Methodists, who have worked persistently with the result that the Beaver church is now one of their best country congregations. A new church was erected there in 1890, the parsonage has been rebuilt since 1877, and in 1905 the congregation had a total of 165 members.

Methodist Work in Rockford

Methodism was first preached to the Swedes of Rockford in 1854, doubtless in the month of February, by Rev. S. B. Newman, who went there on a visit to the parents of Rev. N. O. Westergreen, they having moved there from Chicago. A class was started, in charge of the elder Westergreen. Early in 1855 the younger Westergreen, at the suggestion of Rev. Newman, began preaching, continuing until the following

spring, when the family removed to Evanston in order to give the son an opportunity to study. In May he visited Rockford only to find the class dissolved, and when Rev. E. Shogren visited the city in 1856



The Swedish M. E. Church in Rockford

the outlook for Swedish Methodism in Rockford was still very dark. No further visits were made by Methodist clergymen until the year 1859, when Westergreen again came there. The year after, Rockford had visits from Revs. Challman and Erik Carlson. At that year's conference it was resolved to begin operations in Rockford with Victor

Witting in charge. A little old church owned by the American Presbyterians was rented for the meetings and in October that year Witting began preaching there, at first to audiences of four or five persons, but the attendance steadily increased. Wednesday, Jan. 30, 1861, a congregation with a membership of 12 was organized. Prejudices and active opposition for a time deterred the growth of the church, but when at length the ice was broken more rapid progress was made. A year later, when Rev. Witting began to issue his paper "Sändebudet," there was renewed opposition, but he was not the man to give up in dismay. He stuck to his post of duty, and in 1863 the congregation was able to purchase the little church they had hitherto hired, and renovate it, all without incurring any considerable debt. That year the congregation had 43 members; its pastor was Rev. Albert Ericson, who was also assistant editor of "Sändebudet." The following year N. N. Hill, a local preacher, was in charge. When he resigned in 1865 and was succeeded by P. Newberg the membership had decreased to 40. Subsequently the church was served for two years, 1866-8, by two local preachers, August Westergreen and Oscar Sjögren, each for one year. Meanwhile the membership grew to 68. The last-named year the congregation purchased a lot in a good location on First avenue to which the church was moved.

Rev. O. Gunderson was in charge of the church during the years 1868-71, when there was an increase of thirty members. After Gunderson there was the following succession of ministers: John Linn, 1871-2; A. T. Westergreen, 1872-3; S. B. Newman, 1873-5, and John Wigren, 1875-7. During Rev. Wigren's incumbency the old church, being found inadequate, was replaced in 1877 by a new and larger one. At the conference that year the congregation reported a total of 165 members. In 1905 this church, which at certain periods has been one of the largest in the denomination, numbered 210 members.

The Swedona and Bishop Hill Churches

A Swedish Methodist society, or congregation, was founded in Swedona in 1857, being made up partly of members of the Andover church. An edifice was erected and dedicated in the period of 1859-61, and in 1864 a parsonage was built, this being moved and remodeled in 1874. In 1863 the Swedona church was made entirely independent of the Andover circuit, its membership being then about 50. This church, which embraces also the Swedish Methodists of New Windsor, in 1905 had 36 members.

The Bishop Hill congregation is also numbered among the oldest of the Swedish Methodist churches. It had its inception in the summer

of 1860 when A. J. Anderson was asked by Jonas Olson to come and preach in the old colony church. While in Andover, Anderson made regular visits to Bishop Hill. When and by whom the church was organized is not known. It figures in the list of assignments for the first time in the year 1863, apparently having been started that year by Rev. Peter Challman. In 1865 the so-called "Smedjevinden" (Blacksmith's attic) was purchased and turned into a meeting hall. Three years afterward, quite a large church was erected, as also a parsonage.



The Swedish M. E. Church in Bishop Hill

Several of the former leaders of the Erik Janssonists about this time joined the Methodists. Galva and Kewanee, both belonging to the Bishop Hill circuit, were separated in 1860 and given their own pastors. In 1905 the Bishop Hill church numbered 124 members.

Eminent Workers and Leaders—Rev. Anders Johan Anderson

One of the pioneers of Swedish Methodism was Anders Johan Anderson. He was born in Quennebergа, Smaland, June 9, 1833, the younger of two brothers. The elder was Carl Anderson, who became known over a large part of Sweden as a prominent lay preacher. Having obtained an elementary education, A. J. Anderson emigrated to America in 1854, at the age of twenty-one. Landing in Quebec, he came on to Chicago, where he was employed for some months in a drug store. Toward winter he went south, remaining in New Orleans until spring, when he returned to Chicago. Here he obtained lodging with

a family of Methodists who induced him to attend their church on Illinois street. There he made the acquaintance, first of Rev. S. B. Newman, and later of Rev. Erik Shogren. After attending services for a time, Anderson, in the spring of 1856, joined the church.

He possessed natural talents of a high order, and these, coupled with his newly awakened interest in religious matters, soon attracted the attention of his brethren in the faith, who called him to important positions in the church. Thus he became, in rapid succession, class leader, local preacher, Sunday school teacher and leader of the church



Rev. A. J. Anderson

choir. He preached his first sermon in July, 1856, at a camp meeting in Forest Glen. In 1857, on the advice of Rev. Shogren and after a lengthy consultation with Jonas Hedström, the Methodist patriarch, Anderson resolved to enter the ministry.

His first pastoral charge was at Galesburg, where he labored for two years, till 1859, his subsequent assignments being as follows: Andover, 1859-61; Chicago, 1861-4; Galesburg, 1864-6; Bishop Hill,

1866-70; Chicago, 1870-73; presiding elder of the Swedish district of the Central Illinois Conference, 1873-7; Chicago, 1877-9; Andover, 1879-80; Immanuel Church of Brooklyn, N. Y., 1880-93; Lake View, Chicago, 1893-7; presiding elder of the Chicago district, 1897-1902. He died in this city Dec. 19, 1902.

Anderson was a talented preacher, a successful pastor and a man of unusual executive ability. This latter gift was especially valuable to him during his first and second term of service in Chicago. He was, furthermore, a clear-sighted and experienced church leader, whom his brethren in the work regarded with love and confidence. Few of the Swedish Methodist clergymen in this country can look back on so long and so successful a career as that of Rev. Anderson. His memory will long be cherished among the people whom he so devotedly served. When he was pastor of the church at Lake View, Chicago, he was offered the honorary degree of D. D. from a German Methodist college at St. Paul, Minn., a courtesy which he politely declined.

Rev. John Wigren

John Wigren, another prominent Swedish Methodist pioneer preacher, was born in Gremna parish, Smaland, Oct. 1, 1826. He left his childhood home at the age of seventeen to serve a mason's apprenticeship. After seven years, he received his master mason's certificate from the Gremna council. June 19, 1852, he emigrated to America with his wife and two children, reaching New York Aug. 27th. On the day of his arrival he visited the Bethel mission ship and was converted then and there. From New York he went to La Fayette, Ind., to rejoin some acquaintances from his youth. After a short stay here and in Poolsville, he removed to Attica in the spring of 1853 and joined the Swedish Methodist church that was organized there in August of that year by Rev. Newman.

Wigren at once became a zealous church worker, doing everything in his power for the upbuilding of the congregation. In 1885 he was appointed class leader, in 1856 exhorter and in 1857 local preacher. The pastor in charge being unable to visit the place more than every third Sunday, it devolved upon Wigren to conduct most of the services. With this he continued for five years, or until 1863, when he abandoned his trade to devote himself exclusively to the service of the church. He was then assigned to the Beaver-Yorktown circuit, which he served for two years. Soon after his arrival he set to work to have a parsonage built at Beaver.

At the conference in 1865, he was ordained deacon, a year later he was received on probation into the Central Illinois Conference, and in 1868 he was ordained elder. His subsequent assignments were: Swedona

Moline, 1865-6; Swedona alone, 1866-7; Andover-Swedona, 1867-9; Andover alone, 1869-71; Moline-Geneseo, 1871-3; Swedona 1873-5; May street church in Chicago, also presiding elder of the Chicago district, 1878-81; south side church in Chicago, 1881-2; Bishop Hill, 1882-5; presiding elder of the Burlington district of Iowa, 1885-7, and of the Chicago district, 1887-91; Lake View, 1891-3; Forest Glen, 1893-4; Aurora, 1894-7, and La Grange, 1897-9, after which he retired from active work in the ministry.



Rev. John Wigren

In his prime, Wigren was a very practical man, whose energies were especially directed toward the building of churches and parsonages and soliciting funds for various purposes. Under his direction the church in Rockford was built in 1877, the west side church in Chicago was completed in 1878-81, and the basement of the south side church was built in 1881-2. While he was stationed at Bishop Hill in 1882-5 his executive talents again stood him in good stead when the camp

meeting grounds at Hickory Grove, between Bishop Hill and Galva, were purchased.

Rev. Wigren is, moreover, a successful evangelist and has added many new members to the churches he served. Being a man of good judgement and considerable business acumen, he was often put in charge of important undertakings and has always been a dominant figure at the conference meetings. He worked energetically from the very start in behalf of the theological seminary at Evanston and was for nineteen years a member of its board of trustees. Rev. Wigren is living in retirement in Chicago. Three of his sons have followed in his



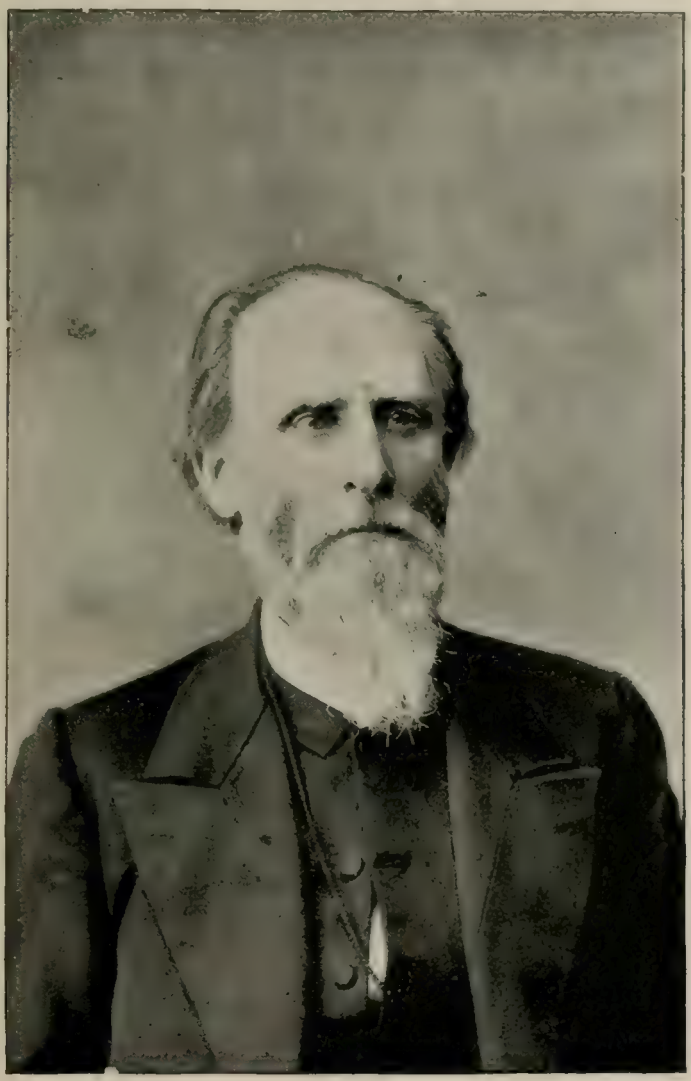
Elim Swedish M. E. Church, Lake View

footsteps and devoted themselves to the ministry in the Swedish Methodist Church.

Rev. N. O. Westergreen

Another of the Swedish Methodist preachers to be numbered with the pioneers is N. O. Westergreen. He was born in Bjäraryd, Blekinge, Sweden, July 25, 1834. Together with his parents and four brothers he came to the United States Sept. 29, 1852. The parents and two of his younger brothers proceeded to Chicago, while he and his two elder brothers remained in the East. The first winter he lived with an American family named Washburn, at Minot, Me., where he attended district school. After spending the spring and summer in Boston he came to Chicago in November, 1853. Here he met Rev. Newman, through whose influence he was converted about Christmas time and embraced the Methodist faith.

Not long afterward Westergreen together with his parents removed to Rockford. He now experienced a desire to enter the ministry, and an opportunity to preach was offered when Rev. Newman, who had



Rev. N. O. Westergreen

begun the work in Rockford, appointed him leader of the meetings. He preached his first sermon in February, 1855, in his parental home. In order to prepare himself for his calling he entered the Garrett Biblical

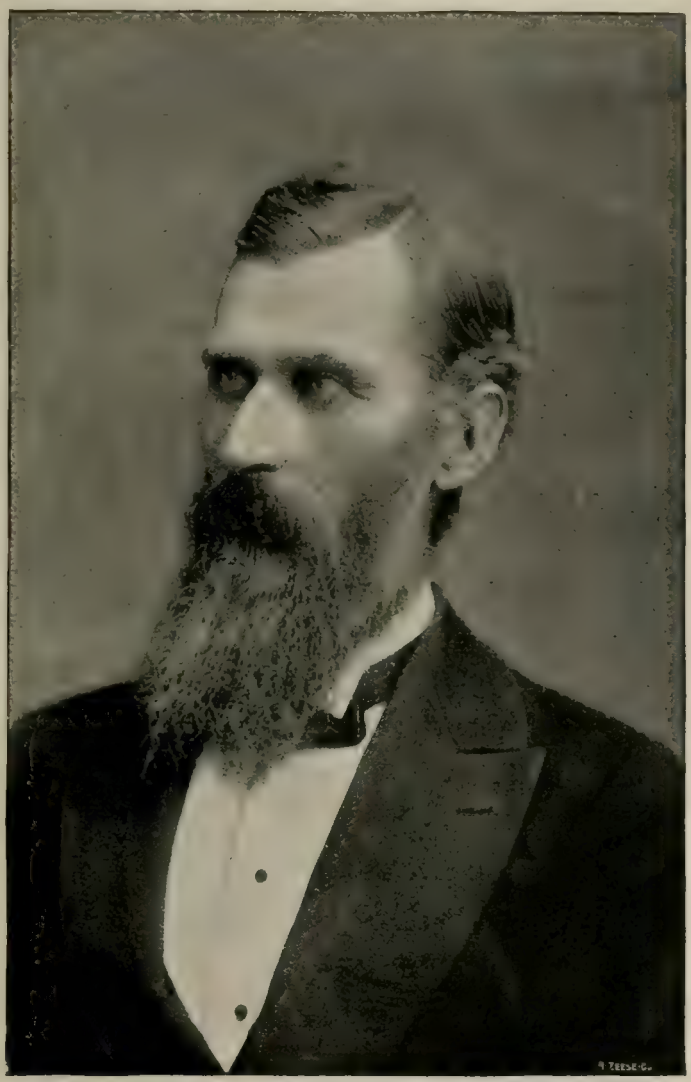
Institute at Evanston the same year and was enrolled at Knox College, Galesburg, a year later. In 1859 Westergreen was assigned to the Victoria church. Thence he was sent to serve the Norwegian congregations in Leland and Norway, and in 1860 he was assigned to Beaver, Ill., and Attica, Ind. After two years he went back to Leland, whence he was transferred in 1863 to the Galesburg church. This assignment suited him all the more as it made it possible for him again to take up studies at Knox College. After serving a year at Bishop Hill, Wataga and Kewanee he was in charge of the north side church in Chicago during the years 1865-8.



The Old Swedish M. E. Tabernacle at Desplaines Camp Grove

In 1870, when the projected theological school was ultimately established, Westergreen became its first teacher, meanwhile having charge of the church at Galesburg for four years. Having subsequently served as editor of "Sändebudet" for three years, Westergreen became pastor of the north side church of Chicago; he was next stationed at Geneva and Batavia for one year, and at Moline for a like term, acting at the same time as presiding elder of the Galesburg district. From here he was sent to the Fifth avenue church in Chicago, where he remained for three years. After four years' service as presiding elder of the Chicago district, he was pastor of the Evanston church for a like period, of the Fifth avenue church one year, at Humboldt Park two years, at Moreland, Melrose and Oak Park one year and at Ravenswood one year. In 1895, at his own request, Westergreen was declared superannuated, but still continued to serve the small congregations at Waukegan and Lake Forest, and acted as teacher at the theological seminary during the school year 1896-7.

Westergreen enjoys the reputation of being a profound thinker and a good speaker. He is well versed, especially in the subjects of theology and church history. As a champion of Methodism among the



Rev. Albert Ericson

Swedish-Americans he has exerted a powerful influence. His ability as scholar and preacher has been recognized by a Methodist institution of learning, which some years ago gave him the degree of D. D.

Rev. Albert Ericson

The fourth of this group of eminent Swedish Methodist workers is Albert Ericson, a distinguished preached and educator, a biographical sketch of whom is found elsewhere in this work. He began preaching shortly after his coming to the United States in 1857. After having served as editor of "Sändebudet", the mouthpiece of the denomination, for two years, Ericson was called in 1866 as teacher of Swedish in the proposed theological seminary and went abroad to prepare himself for this work. Finding upon his return that the school was not yet opened, he again assumed the editorship of the official church paper. After laboring as a preacher in the eastern field for some ten years he was called to the presidency of the Swedish Theological Seminary in Evanston. In this responsible position, held by him for a quarter of a century, he continues to render efficient service to his church and to wield great influence in the training of its teachers.

The Swedish Theological Seminary

As early as 1865, a year before the Methodist Episcopal Church of America celebrated its one hundredth anniversary, steps were taken toward the establishment of a divinity school for the Scandinavian element of the denomination. The initiative was taken by Rev. Victor Witting. In October of that year a general convention of all Scandinavian Methodist preachers and a number of laymen was held to discuss the matter. The meeting resolved that a Scandinavian seminary be founded at the earliest possible time. Rev. Witting and other pastors were appointed as solicitors of funds, and teachers were designated. The project met with favor everywhere and a considerable amount was subscribed. When Witting, who was the soul of the movement, was sent to Sweden, the work lagged, and more than half of the amount promised was lost through negligence in making collections.

Ere long it proved impracticable to carry out the original plan of a common institution for all Scandinavian Methodists. A separation between the Swedish and Norwegian brethren followed, each group continuing to carry forward its plans, after an equal division of the existing funds had been made. The split delayed the establishment of a Swedish seminary until 1870, when it was finally founded at Galesburg. On Feb. 28th of that year it opened with two students and Rev N. O. Westergreen as teacher. During the entire first year the attendance stopped at a total of four. The upper story of a private house, belonging to one Peter Hillgren, was at first used for studies and recitation rooms. From there the school moved into another private house and then occupied rooms on the second floor in the private



The Swedish Theological Seminary, Evanston

residence of Rev. Westergreen. Not more than a dozen persons availed themselves of the instruction given while the school was in Galesburg, but this number includes not a few of the leading members of the Swedish Methodist clergy. From that time the school has had a permanent existence, although the location has varied. In 1872 it was removed from Galesburg to Galva, and Westergreen was succeeded by Rev. C. A. Wirén. Three years afterward, in 1875, the institution was located in Evanston, in organic connection with the Northwestern University. At this time Dr. William Henschen was placed at its head, a position retained by him until the close of the school year in the spring of 1883. Part of this time the first class had been maintained and taught partly at Galva, partly in St. Paul and Minneapolis, Fredrick Ahlgren acting as teacher at the former place in 1877-9, and J. O. Nelson at the latter in 1879-82. After that the institution was consolidated at Evanston, with Prof. Albert Ericson at the head. He was the sole teacher up to 1889, when C. G. Wallenius was elected assistant professor. He resigned in 1896, and was succeeded by Westergreen, but returned to the position after an interval of three years, and remained with the institution until 1906.

Many of the students of the seminary have availed themselves of its connection with the university to take special courses in its various departments, a number graduating from the college. From 1886 a special teacher of English has been a member of the seminary faculty.

The control of the institution is vested in a board of nine directors, five clergymen and four laymen, representing the Central, the Western, the Northern and the Eastern Swedish Methodist Conferences.

The institution was started on a fund of $4,000, which has since grown to $45,000. This does not include the sum of about $8,000 expended on the building erected in 1883 on ground owned by the university. This building was a three story structure, containing recitation rooms, dining room, kitchen and 16 living-rooms for students. The money expended on the building was raised chiefly through the efforts of Rev. Charles G. Nelson.

Recently a more commodious building has been erected at a cost of $35,000, the dedication of which on Sept. 21, 1907, marked a great stride in the progress of the institution. The new building is located at Orrington avenue and Lincoln street; on a campus, 246 feet front by 211 deep, costing $12,000. The present valuation on the seminary property is $47,000, on which rests a debt of about $14,000.

The Bethany Home

The question of establishing a Swedish Methodist home for the aged in Chicago was first broached at the annual meeting of the ministerial association of the Chicago district, held at Donovan, Ill., in 1889

A committee appointed to present plans for such an institution included Mr. John R. Lindgren, the banker. At a subsequent meeting, held New Year's Day, 1890, he gave a promise of $5,000 to the proposed home, conditioned on the raising of a like amount. Rev. Alfred Anderson set to work soliciting donations, and when through his efforts the condition had been fully met, Mr. Lindgren promised another substantial donation on the same terms.

With such a lift at the start, it was comparatively easy to acquire the funds needed for the early realization of the plan. In February, 1891, a house in south Evanston was rented and on the 3rd of March following the home was formally opened. In August of the same year ground was purchased in the Ravenswood district, Chicago, for the sum



The Bethany Home, Chicago

of $13,000. A building was erected thereon, at a cost of nearly $15,000. Upon its completion, the temporary quarters were abandoned and the wards transferred to the new building. This contained mainly living-rooms for the aged, but two rooms were set aside for the accommodation and care of the sick, and two physicians and a trained nurse were engaged. In this way charity was extended in the form of medical attendance free of cost, wholly or in part, until the entire building was

needed for its original purpose, when the hospital department was discontinued.

In the year 1896 a six-flat building was erected on the grounds, the rental of which goes toward the maintenance of the home. This was ready for occupancy in April, 1897, and has since yielded the institution a handsome steady income, supplemented by gifts and contributions from churches, societies and individuals, and an annual offering in the churches on Thanksgivings Day. Applicants for admission have paid in various sums, varying from $50 to $500 a person, no specified fee being required.

The affairs of the Bethany Home are in the hands of a board of trustees, with Rev. Alfred Anderson as president and Rev. John Bendix as financial agent, the latter having filled that position for the past eleven years. The institution, now free of debt, owns property valued at $75,000.

At the close of the year 1907 the number of inmates of the home was thirty. The total number of persons cared for since the opening was 179, of whom 41 have passed away.

Growth of Swedish Methodism

In 1875 Swedish Methodism in the West had grown to such an extent that its ministers, with two or three exceptions, all deemed it not only desirable but absolutely necessary to hold a Swedish conference comprising all the Swedish Methodist congregations in the states of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan, and to this end a petition was submitted at the General Conference which convened at Baltimore in May, 1876. The petition was granted, and Sept. 6th the following year Bishop Jesse T. Peck organized in Galesburg the Swedish Northwestern Conference. From its inception the conference embraced three districts, those of Galesburg, Iowa and Minnesota, with a total of 36 ministers, 39 pastorates, 4,105 members, 44 church edifices, valued at $121,750, and 22 parsonages, at $19,225.

In 1893, after 16 years of progress, there were five districts in all, viz., Chicago, Burlington, Kansas, Nebraska, St. Paul and Superior, with 85 ministers, 105 pastorates, 9,800 members, 131 church edifices and 61 parsonages, with a total property value of $564,880. After three years of preparation, the Northwestern Conference at a meeting in Galesburg was divided into three conferences, the Central, the Western and the Northern Swedish conferences. The Central Conference included Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, western New York, western Pennsylvania, and the city of Racine, Wis. It was divided into three



1. N. O. Westergreen.
2. Ole Peter·en.
3. C. J. Anderson.
4. O. Gunderson.
5. O. C Simpson.
6. S. B. Newman.
7. N. Peterson.
8. J. H. Ekstrand.
9. A. Vigdal.
10. J. H. Johnson.
11. A. Hangensen.
12. O G. Hedstrom.
13. Karl Schou.
14. A. Westergren.
15. Albert Ericson.
16. O. P. Peterson.
17. L. Lindqvist.
18. N. Christofferson.
19. John Wigren.
20. J. Östlund.
21. P. Nyberg.
22. P. Jensen.
23. R. Peterson.
24. C. J. Hofflund.
25. Gustaf Wetterlund.
26. A. J. Anderson.
27. V. Witting.

Participants in the First Conference of Swedish M. E. Clergymen, Chicago, 1866

districts, Chicago, Galesburg and Jamestown, numbering altogether 43 ministers, 43 pastorates, 5,321 members, 47 church buildings and 22 parsonages.

The Western Conference embraced Iowa, Missouri, Kansas and Nebraska and was divided into two districts, Iowa and Kansas-Nebraska, with a total of 27 pastors, 29 pastorates, 2,299 members, with 39 church edifices and 19 parsonages, worth altogether $100,500.

The Northern Conference comprised Minnesota and Wisconsin, with the exception of the city of Racine, and the northern peninsula of Michigan. The following year, this conference was organized into three districts, Lake Superior, Minneapolis and St. Paul, and had at that time 32 ministers, 39 pastorates, 2,634 members, 52 church buildings and 23 parsonages. At the seventh annual meeting of the conference in Calumet, Mich., in 1900, it was reorganized into a regular annual conference called the Northern Swedish Conference. In 1903 it numbered 30 ministers, 43 pastorates, 2,906 members, 54 church buildings and 40 parsonages.



Swedish Methodist Tabernacle at Desplaines, Dedicated 1907

The Swedish Methodist work in the East is of a more recent date than that in the West. With a couple of exceptions, the eastern congregations have all been organized later than 1878. Originally these belonged to the various American annual conferences, but in 1900 they petitioned for permission to form a conference of their own. This being granted, the Eastern Swedish Conference was organized April 24, 1901, at a meeting held in the Immanuel Church of Brooklyn, N. Y. The conference was divided into the four districts of Brooklyn, New York, Worcester and Boston, these embracing a membership of 3,642, with 26 ministers, 28 pastorates, 28 churches and 10 parsonages, the property being valued at $343,200.

In Texas work was taken up among the Swedish people as early as 1873. At first this was carried on under the direction of the American Texas conference of the Southern M. E. Church, but in 1881 a Swedish district was formed, as a part of the Austin Conference of the Northern M. E. Church. In 1903 this district had 10 ministers, 10 pastorates, 572 members, 13 churches and 9 parsonages, the property being valued at $51,400.

The Swedish Methodist work in California dates from the early seventies, but not until 1892 was a Swedish district formed. This numbered in 1903 seven congregations, with 342 members, and had 7 churches and 2 parsonages. The value of its church property was $45,050.

In the summer of 1881 the Swedish Methodists extended their endeavors to the states of Oregon and Washington, and in 1890 a Swedish district was formed, embracing these two states and Idaho. Its statistics in 1903 were as follows: 12 congregations, 395 members, 11 church buildings and 8 parsonages. The total value of the church property was $39,935.

Eliminating the Jamestown, N. Y., district from the Central Conference, its statistics will practically cover only the state of Illinois. The strength of the Swedish Methodists in the state will then appear from the following figures, compiled in 1907, covering the Chicago and Galesburg districts: regularly ordained ministers, 47; churches, 49; members, on probation, 383, in full connection, 5,222; church buildings, 49, the estimated value of which was $372,200; parsonages, 27; estimated value, $102,000, making a total church property value of $474,000.

CHAPTER VII

The Swedish Episcopal Church

The First Swedish Episcopal Clergyman in the United States

THE story of the founding of the Pine Lake settlement in Wisconsin, the first Swedish colony in the Northwest, by Gustaf Unonius, has been recounted in previous pages. In the history of the Swedish-Americans this man is remarkable also for being the first Swedish Episcopal clergyman in this country and the organizer of the first Swedish church of that denomination. This congregation was followed in later years by others, in various parts of the country. Although these do not, like those of the other Swedish denominations, have an organization of their own, but are merely part of the respective American bishopries, yet they are not without influence on the religious development of the Swedish-Americans. That influence increases in direct ratio to the increasing number and size of the congregations, most of which up to the present time are few and comparatively small.

Already during his pioneer days, Unonius, then a mere layman, acted as pastor for the surrounding community. Every Sunday he would conduct services in his rude dwelling, the order of service consisting of the singing of hymns and reading of a sermon from some postil brought over from the old country. These services gradually attracted the neighbors throughout the settlement, even those living at considerable distance, and in all their simplicity these hours of worship grew to be spiritual feasts to the settlers. In the meantime the Episcopal Church had started a mission in the vicinity of the colony, where its ministers, at the invitation of the settlers, would administer the sacraments and perform other official acts. But since the English language was still incomprehensible to most of the settlers, who constantly required the services of Unonius as interpreter, they soon recognized the demand for a man who could officiate in their own language and requested Unonius, in whom they had implicit confidence, to enter the ministry. He hesitated at first, but finding himself gradually drawn to the ministry and discovering his unfitness for the farmer's vocation,

he finally gave way to their gentle persuasion and resolved to study for the priesthood.

Of all the religious denominations with which the settlers had come in contact up to this time, they considered the Episcopalian the nearest approach to their own faith, both in the matter of creed and of polity. They therefore urged Unonius to seek ordination in that church, and he acceded to their wishes the more readily as he himself was convinced of the superiority of the Episcopalian over other churches. Entering the theological seminary just established by the Episcopalians at Nashota, Wis., he was after three years of study ordained in 1845 by Bishop Kemper and assigned as missionary to the Swedish and Norwegian immigrants in Pine Lake and vicinity. According to his own statement, Unonius was the first Episcopal clergyman ordained in Wisconsin. He soon discovered that the ministry also had its drawbacks. Things went fairly well so long as he was in the pay of the missionary board, but when he endeavored to form an organized congregation and asked its members to contribute regularly to the support of the minister, he was met with the reply that "in this country the gospel is free."

Under such circumstances the ministry became a hard and disagreeable task, but undismayed he continued the work under great privations until he became pastor of a newly organized American church in Manitowoc, Wis., when his cares were somewhat lightened.

The First Scandinavian Church in Chicago

In the meantime, religious needs had begun to be felt among the few Swedes of Chicago, but at least for a time, these needs were only imperfectly supplied. As early as the fall of 1847, there appeared among them a certain Gustaf Smith who claimed to be a Lutheran minister but who seems to have been an adventurer and a mere imposter. Nevertheless, he succeeded in gaining the confidence both of his own fellow countrymen and of the Norwegians of the city so as to be able to organize a congregation. A lot was purchased at Superior street, near La Salle avenue, on the spot where the Passavant Hospital is now located, and a small church building was begun, whereupon Smith, accompanied by one of the leading members of the church, went to St. Louis to solicit money for the building fund among the German Lutherans of that city. They succeeded well, bringing back no less than $600. The resultant joy soon turned to sorrow and regret when "Rev." Smith absconded with the greater part of the funds. About the same time another misfortune befell the congregation in that the still unfinished edifice was torn from its foundations by a storm and

badly damaged. Worst of all, strife and dissension arose, which tore the congregation itself to pieces.

Among the Norwegians of Chicago there were at this time several intelligent Christian men who had not been duped by Smith and his followers. These organized in the winter of 1848 the first Norwegian Lutheran church in Chicago and called a student of their own nationality, named Paul Andersen, as their pastor. The same year this congregation purchased the half-ruined church belonging to Smith's congregation and restored it to its foundation. The same church was sold in 1854 to the Swedish Lutheran Immanuel Church organized the year before and was used by them until 1869.

The aforesaid Smith afterward joined the Swedish Methodists and operated for several years in Iowa. In 1852-53 he was in charge of their church in New Sweden and in 1854 organized the churches of Dayton and Stratford. Suspicious actions soon caused his expulsion. He then joined the American Free Methodists and in his efforts to win his former brethren of the Swedish church over to that sect, caused a good deal of disaffection and disorder among the young Swedish Methodist congregations of Iowa. He met with little success, however, and when he was no longer able to support himself among his countrymen in Iowa, he went still farther west where the tracks of the "evangelist" are lost.

Unonius and the Erik Janssonists

After these adversities, the Swedish members of the congregation founded by Smith decided, on the advice of P. von Schneidau, to call as their pastor his friend Unonius, whom they knew from his former visits to Chicago. In the summer of 1848 he had visited the city and conducted the first religious meeting in the Swedish language ever held in Chicago. That meeting took place in a hall in a medical institute on the north side and was attended by 30 to 40 persons.

On this occasion an episode took place which deserves to be recorded. A party of Erik Jassonists which had just arrived from Sweden was stopping in Chicago awaiting the arrival of one of the apostles to guide them on their way to Bishop Hill. In a few days the expected apostle arrived, accompanied by five or six other men, bringing horses and wagons. It was Anders Anderson from Thorstuna. Upon learning that Swedish religious meetings were held in the city, he went there with some of his men. After the sermon, Unonius, knowing that there were Erik Janssonists in the audience, attempted to direct a few words of admonition to these deluded persons. Had he been aware of the trouble the Erik Janssonists had made for the Swedish clergy for the past four years, he would wisely have desisted from addressing them.

but as he had been in the United States since 1841, he had not been in a position to follow the career of the sect. He was quickly made aware of the utter uselessness of engaging in a discussion with these people, infallible as they were in their own eyes. Hardly had he closed his remarks when Anders Anderson arose and began to defend the doctrines of Erik Jansson. A long debate on the subject of dead and living Christianity ensued between the two men, and Unonius was ignominiously defeated in the tilt, his opponent Anderson being almost the equal of Erik Jansson himself in the art of fencing with passages of Scripture as weapons. With an inexhaustible supply of memorized scriptural concordances and parallels, literally interpreted, these fanatics were capable of proving with the words of the Bible any proposition whatsoever. As against this volubility and mass of evidence all the learning and theological armament of Unonius availed nothing. Although Anderson worsted his opponent in argument, yet it does not appear that he made a single proselyte among the Swedes of Chicago, who were pretty well acquainted with the Erik Jansson movement.

Founding of the First Swedish Episcopal Church

"Rev." Smith's congregation seems to have been altogether too loosely organized to hang together for any length of time without reorganization. Besides, it appears to have lacked all connection with the Lutheran Church in general. One thing and another tended toward disintegration, and the Swedish members, at the instance of Von Schneidau and with the advice of Unonius, undertook to organize an Episcopal congregation. The original purpose was to make it all Swedish, but the Swedes being few and the Norwegian members of the church preferring to make common cause with them in church matters, it was decided to make it Scandinavian. A committee, known as the church committee, was appointed to draw up a constitution. This committee, consisting of Von Schneidau, Anders Larsson, Pehr Ersson and J. Fr. Björkman, Swedes, and And. B. Jonsen, Battolf Markusen, and Knut Gundersen, Norwegians, met at the home of Von Schneidau March 5, 1849. The name proposed was the St. Eric and St. Olaf Church, to indicate its Scandinavian character and to do honor to the patron saints of the countries of Sweden and Norway.

The congregation at first held its services in the basement of the American Episcopal Church of St. James where the organization was completed in May, 1849. For reasons unknown the proposed name was not adopted, the church being named St. Ansgarius, from the first Christian missionary in Sweden. The constitution was now adopted and signed by 34 voting members, the Swedes and Norwegians being about equally divided. Rev. Unonius was present and his name and

that of his wife head the list as it appears in the earliest church records. The first trustees were, Polycarpus von Schneidau, W. Knudsen, Battolf Markusen, Anders Jonsen, Anders Larsson, John Björkman, A. S. Sheldon and John Andersson.

Immediately on his removal to Chicago, Rev. Unonius undertook the laborious task of gathering funds for a church building. Accompanied by his faithful friend Von Schneidau, he made a trip to Delaware and Pennsylvania to visit the descendants of the Delaware Swedes and among these people he succeeded in soliciting for his church fund a sum amounting to between $4,000 and $5,000. Early in the



Rev. Gustaf Unonius

spring of 1850 two building lots, located at the corner of Franklin and Indiana streets, were purchased for the sum of $400. The work of building was at once begun and progressed nicely so long as the funds lasted. These, however, soon were exhausted and again Unonius and Von Schneidau were obliged to begin soliciting. At this juncture Jenny Lind, the great Swedish singer, visited New York city, and Unonius succeeded in persuading the prima donna to donate the sum of $1,500 to his church building fund. After her departure in 1851, she added to her munificence by donating, through one Max Hjortsberg of Chicago, an altar service consisting of a beautifully worked communion cup and plate, valued at $1,000. For the funds now available a handsome and

commodious church and a comfortable parsonage were built. The church was a frame edifice, provided with a semi-circular gallery, and had a total seating capacity of 300. Its dimensions were 33x50 feet. The parsonage was a two story frame house.

Unonius as a Pastor

For nine years Rev. Unonius carried on an energetic and richly blessed pastoral work combined with tireless endeavor in behalf of the needy. At this time the Swedish people of Chicago lived under conditions entirely different from those of today. They were few in number and generally poor, unable to give any material aid to other poor immigrants who followed. The latter, therefore, in the first place turned to the Swedish minister for assistance, demanding not only that he act as their spiritual adviser and teacher but also as their commissioner, assistant and adviser in all worldly matters. Unonius, who warmly sympathized with the poor, and mostly sick, Swedish immigrants, never spared himself, but was at their service at all times, so far as his strength and ability would permit. The cholera, which broke out epidemically almost every year, caused him much work and anxiety. The hardest part of his task was how to procure homes and foster-parents for all the children of immigrants who lost one or both parents in the epidemic.

After only four years of labor for the temporal and spiritual welfare of his countrymen, this warm-hearted philanthropist was so broken down by over-exertion that he was compelled in 1853 to seek rest and recreation in a trip to Sweden. He returned just in time to resume with renewed strength the arduous and self-sacrificing duties imposed by the terrible cholera outbreak of 1854 among the Swedish newcomers.

The membership of his church continually changed. In 1850, his second year, the congregation numbered 163, the following year it grew to 195, in 1855 it dropped down to 117, but in 1857 it had again increased to 142. In 1856 the little church was so prosperous as to be able to purchase an organ costing $700.

Notwithstanding his many duties at home, Unonius found time to pay occasional visits to neighboring places to serve his fellow countrymen by preaching and officiating at various religious acts. During his very first year in Chicago, he made an official trip westward, visiting almost every point where Swedes had settled. The main reasons why he did not afterward attempt to organize Swedish Episcopal congregations at these various places are the following: In the first place there was not sufficient material at hand at these points to found churches, in the second, he was the only Swedish Episcopal pastor in the whole country and had his hands more than full of work right in his home



Communion Chalice and Paten of solid silver, presented by Jenny Lind to the St. Ansgarius Church, bearing the inscription "Gifvet till den Skandinaviska Kyrkan St. Ansgarius i Chicago af en Landsmanninna A. D. 1851."

field, and in the third place, after a few years the religious needs of the immigrants began to be provided for by the Swedish Lutheran clergymen who organized congregations wherever an opportunity offered. Had the American Episcopal Church, from the very encouraging beginning made by Unonius, displayed a warmer interest in mission work among the Swedish settlers it might then have obtained that foothold among them which it has, with partial success, sought to gain in later years. It must be admitted, however, that Unonius did his part in serv-



St. Ansgarius Episcopal Church and Rectory

ing his fellow countrymen who at that time, if ever, were in need of spiritual advice and comfort as well as material help. The exceptional zeal and unselfish efforts of Unonius in behalf of the early settlers entitle him to an honored place in the history of the Swedes of America.

At the time of his visit to Sweden in 1853, Unonius harbored the desire to remain in the old country and enter the service of the state church, but his duties called him back to Chicago. For several years more he labored here with his customary energy. His work was still further increased by his appointment to the office of vice consul for Sweden and Norway to succeed Von Schneidau who, after a few years of service, was compelled to retire on account of an incurable disease. Finally, in the year 1858, Unonius was able to realize his desire to return to Sweden.

He there sought admission as minister to the state church, but encountering various obstacles, he was forced to choose another calling in order to earn a living for himself and family. He entered the customs service and in 1863 was promoted to the position of collector of the port of Grisslehamn, an office which he held until 1888. Both before and after his retirement from the customs service Unonius would engage in pastoral work whenever called upon, and he retained to his old age the ecclesiastical office in the Anglican Church.

In 1859, the year after his return to Sweden, the riksdag voted him a gift of three thousand crowns in recognition of his long and useful service in behalf of his fellow countrymen in the United States.



Rev. Jacob Bredberg

During his last years Unonius was living at Hacksta, in the province of Upland, a country seat placed at his disposal by his son-in-law, Hugo Tamm, a landed proprietor and member of the riksdag. There he died October 14, 1902, at the high age of 92 years.

Alongside of his official duties, Unonius devoted himself quite extensively to literary pursuits. His best known works, both in Swedish, are: "Mormonism, its Origin, Development and Creed," published in 1883, and "Reminiscences of Seventeen Years in the American Northwest," published in 1861-2. At the age of 86, he added a supplement to the latter volume.

The St. Ansgarius Church

After the return of Unonius to Sweden the St. Ansgarius Church for several years had to pass through many hard struggles. No Swedish pastor was to be had, and it was for a time served by American Episcopal clergymen. During this period it was known as the St. Barnabe's Mission, and its membership seems to have been very small.

This stagnation period lasted until 1862 when Rev. Jacob Bredberg, a former curate from Sweden, who for several years had been in the service of the Methodist Church, assumed the pastorate. Its membership was very materially reduced that same year by the withdrawal of the Norwegian members, but it rallied from the stroke and added quite



Rev. John Hedman



Rev. Herman Lindskog

a number of new members during the many years that Rev. Bredberg was in charge. In 1868 the church was extensively remodeled and enlarged at an outlay almost equal to the original cost of the edifice. The renovated temple had not been long in use when it was destroyed in the great fire of 1871. Three of the trustees, Schönbeck, Norström and Lind, succeeded in saving the altar-piece, painted in 1868 by the Norwegian artist Clason, and also the church records, which were taken to the cathedral of the Episcopal bishopric of Illinois, located on the west side, and there placed in safe keeping. The communion service donated by Jenny Lind was kept in the safe of one of the church members who saved it from destruction, and it is used at the communion services of the church to this day.

Before the end of the disastrous year of 1871 the congregation had begun to erect a new church which was ready for occupancy on Christ-

mas morning, 1872. This was the same church that is still used by the St. Ansgarius congregation. It is situated on Sedgwick street and is built in the Gothic style, its cost being approximately $30,000. To that sum the Illinois bishopric of the American Episcopal Church contributed $20,000. Adjacent to the church a spacious parsonage was erected.

Old age and resultant illness in 1877 compelled Rev. Bredberg to resign. His successor was Nils Nordeen who was replaced by P. Arvidson the following year. Arvidson was succeeded by John Hedman in the fall of 1879. Rev. Hedman was a native of Krokstad parish, in Bohuslän, where he was born June 25, 1848. He studied in Sweden and Germany before coming to America in 1873, and in 1877 he entered the Episcopal institution of Seabury Hall, at Faribault, Minn., where he finished his theological course in June, 1879. The following September he was ordained in the St. Ansgarius Church to which he was assigned as assistant pastor. In May, 1880, Hedman was unanimously elected rector and served in this capacity until 1887.

From that year the rectorate of the St. Ansgarius Church has been entrusted to Rev. Herman Lindskog whose biography appears elsewhere in this volume.

There are three other Swedish Episcopal congregations in this state, but these are of quite recent date. The largest doubtless is that of Galesburg; next in point of size comes the Immanuel Church of Englewood. The third in order is the Woodhull church which during the last few years has shown but faint signs of life.

The Swedish Episcopal churches in the eastern states are not the fruits of the fundamental work accomplished in Illinois and Wisconsin and therefore cannot properly be mentioned under this head.

CHAPTER VIII

The Swedish Lutheran Church

Lars Paul Esbjörn, Founder and Pioneer

THE Swedish Methodists had already organized two congregations and the Swedish Episcopalians one, when the first Swedish Lutheran clergyman began religious work in Illinois in a modest and unassuming way. It did not take many years, however, until the Lutherans had outdistanced both the Methodists and the Baptists, who soon appeared in the field. Born and raised as members of the state church of Sweden, a large part of the Swedish immigrants eagerly embraced the opportunity to group themselves into congregations around former ministers of that same church who, out of interest in the spiritual welfare of their fellow countrymen in the West, had sought them out to preach to them the word of God and administer the sacraments. Its many faults notwithstanding, the Swedish state church was still dear to the hearts of serious-minded persons among them, and they were all the more willing to adhere to the faith defended by the blood of their fathers since they could here organize their congregations independently of the government and without any form of state supervision. The innate force of the Lutheran Church here, as earlier among the German Lutherans in the East, got an opportunity to develop under the benign influence of untrammeled religious freedom, and the result has been wonderful indeed. In a very short time Swedish Lutheran churches were organized not only in various parts of the state of Illinois but also in the adjoining states of Iowa and Indiana. This was the comparatively small beginning of the large and powerful Swedish Lutheran Church of America, known as the Augustana Synod, which, in little more than half a century, has extended its work and influence over a large part of the United States, over parts of Canada and to Alaska and Porto Rico.

The first Swedish Lutheran minister in Illinois was Lars Paul Esbjörn. With the exception of Peter Wilhelm Böckman, in Wiscon-

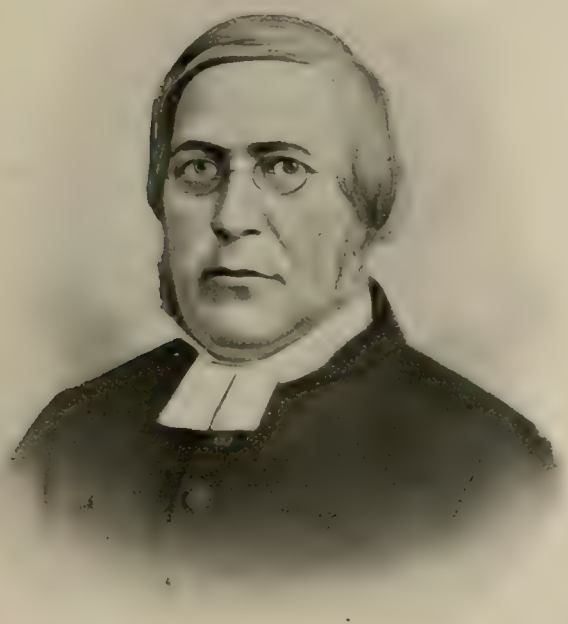
sin, and Carl Peter Agrelius, in New York, both of whom were failures as such. Esbjörn was also the first Swedish Lutheran preacher in America in modern times. He may properly be styled the father of the Swedish Lutheran Church in this country. He not only founded the Augustana Synod, but also began the Swedish educational work in the United States. As a pioneer and founder, Esbjörn for all time will hold first place in the annals of Swedish-American Lutheranism.

Lars Paul Esbjörn was born in Delsbo parish, in Helsingland, Oct. 16, 1808. His parents were Esbjörn Paulson, a country tailor, and Karin Lindström, his wife. When the boy was five years old his mother died, and two years afterward he lost his father. An old maid-servant named Stina took the motherless boy in charge before the death of his father and was a tender foster-mother to him until he reached his twelfth year. It was she who taught him to read, and after she discovered the boy's aptness in his studies, she did not rest until she had him entered, in the fall of 1820, in a school in the city of Hudiksvall. Like all other poor boys, he suffered great privations in trying to get an education. Being a boy of weak constitution, want had a telling effect on him, yet he proved a diligent and hard-working pupil, who stood high in the estimation of his teachers. With good scholarship marks he entered the gymnasium at Gefle in 1825, and there took up astronomy, higher mathematics and navigation alongside of his prescribed studies. Having taken notice of his predilection for mathematics, his guardian advised him to join the topographical engineering corps of the army in order to raise funds for continued study, but Lars Paul was fixed in his resolve to become a minister, and nothing could swerve him. He had inherited three hundred crowns from his parents, but that sum did not go far. His noble-hearted foster-mother, however, exerted herself to the utmost to provide the necessary means and his home parish gave him assistance in the same way that Luther was helped when a boy. He was accustomed at Christmas time to make a round of the well-to-do farmers, singing a stanza or two of some hymn at every house, and received in compensation various gifts, according to the circumstances of the giver, ranging from money and grain down to dried meat and tallow candles.

At midsummer, 1828, aged nineteen, Esbjörn passed examination for admission to the University of Upsala and was enrolled as a theological student of the university. After completing a four-year course in theology, he was ordained minister June 11, 1832, probably in the Upsala Cathedral by Archbishop Carl von Rosenstein, and became assistant pastor in Öster-Vähla parish, in Upland, where he served for three years. Subsequently he was chosen pastor for the Oslättfors

factory and also school-teacher in Hille, Gestrikland, filling both positions for fourteen years.

During this time he was perceptibly influenced by Rev. George Scott, the English Methodist preacher at Stockholm, not, however, in a sectarian sense, but in the direction of deepening his religious convictions. From this time on Esbjörn was a strict and earnest pietist of the old school, and he became known as a zealous "läsareprest" (revivalist preacher), while still a strict conformist to the church. The earnest



Rev. Lars Paul Esbjörn

and gifted young pastor early devoted himself to literary work, partly original, partly translations and revisions of older religious books and tracts. In the early forties, when the great temperance agitation stirred the country, Esbjörn became one of the foremost temperance advocates in northern Sweden, contributing by speaking, writing and forming temperance societies toward that change of public sentiment which ultimately made it possible for the lawmaking power to stop the

private distillery system and thereby stem the flood-tide of drunkenness.

Actuated by his great enthusiasm in behalf of temperance, Esbjörn at times probably went too far, for instance in forcibly depriving farmers whom he met in the road of the whiskey kegs they were bringing home. But even where he acted with the utmost caution he did not escape bitter persecution, for the dram was dear to the hearts of the people and whiskey was a power in the land. His enemies sought in every way to make trouble for him, and even went so far as to threaten his life. One night when Esbjörn attended a religious meeting, several men lay in ambush for him under a bridge he was expected to cross, evidently for the purpose of beating or killing him. Luckily for him, the meeting lasted so long that the ruffians got tired of waiting and went home, thinking that their man had been forewarned and had taken another route.

As a consequence of his stern piety and strict ideas on temperance, Esbjörn aroused much opposition among the clergy of the archbishopric, who did everything to prevent his obtaining a rectorate. Having passed the pastoral examination in 1839, he was nominated for that office in several places, such as Regnsjö, Söderhamn and Loos, but in every instance he was bitterly opposed by the whiskey interests. In the last-named place it is claimed he received a majority of the votes, but was deprived of the position by trickery.

No wonder, then, that this energetic and profoundly earnest minister of the gospel wearied of the ungrateful treatment accorded him at home and began to look about for another field. He had no difficulty in finding one. The emigration of the first party of Erik Jansson's followers to America in 1846 had directed the attention of all Sweden to the great western land of promise. In the years next following one large party of emigrants after another had embarked for America. Esbjörn could not have failed to notice this movement, for it was in his own native district that Erik Jansson obtained his principal following and whence the sect gradually emigrated in larger or smaller parties, which were soon followed by others of their countrymen who longed for America for economic reasons equally as urgent as were the religious considerations of the Erik Janssonists. The latter class of emigrants, who were still devoted to the creed and doctrine of the Swedish Lutheran Church, in letters to their friends and relatives at home complained bitterly of their religious needs, their situation being all the graver as they were surrounded on all sides, not only by the Erik Janssonists and the Swedish Methodists but by all sorts of American religious sects with which they did not wish to affiliate, and

in this predicament they did not have one single Lutheran pastor to minister to their spiritual wants.

Realizing the pressing needs of these people, Rev. Esbjörn decided to emigrate and become their pastor. The question of earning a livelihood from the start caused him a great deal of worry. His knowledge of Methodism, gained from Rev. Scott of Stockholm, had given him a high opinion of the unselfish motives of that church, and he seems to have had assurance that the same church in America would be found equally unselfish, relying on it to render some aid in his work as a Lutheran pastor. A correspondence appears to have been carried on between him and Rev. Jonas Hedström of Victoria on this subject, Hedström being known to him through letters from emigrants. But this did not lead to any direct results, wherefore Esbjörn turned to the Swedish Mission Society with a petition for official recognition and financial aid from that source. He received both, the financial aid, however, being quite insufficient.

After having received leave of absence to engage in clerical work in foreign territory, Esbjörn, accompanied by 140 emigrants from the provinces of Gestrikland and Helsingland, embarked June 29, 1849, on the sailing vessel "Cobden," bound from Gefle for New York. The voyage, besides being fraught with difficulty and peril, craved the life of one of Esbjörn's children, and the body was interred in Helsingborg, where the vessel touched. This was but the first of a series of sorrows and reverses that were to follow. The party arrived at New York in the latter part of August or early in September, with the intention of proceeding to Victoria, Ill. Their plan was frustrated, however, for when Esbjörn met Rev. O. G. Hedström in New York he was informed that the American Methodists would give him no aid as a Lutheran minister, but only on condition that he join the Methodist Church. This Esbjörn would by no means consent to do. In his predicament he turned to the headquarters of the American Board of Home Missions in New York with an inquiry whether they would for a time support him in his work among the Lutherans. Having apparently received a favorable reply, he had no further reason to look up Rev. Jonas Hedström in Victoria, but began to make inquiries for some other western settlement where he might take up missionary work. He did not have to look long for just such an opportunity. While in New York, he had the fortune to meet the aforementioned Captain P. W. Wirström, who for a short time had been living in the new Swedish settlement at Andover, in Henry county. Wirström seems to have been the agent of the land company in New York that founded Andover, and it was no doubt through his influence that this company promised Esbjörn ten acres of land for a church on condition that he and his party would

settle there. After careful consideration, Esbjörn resolved to go to Andover to stay.

With Captain Wirström as guide and adviser, the party now started on their tedious journey westward. They traveled by canal-boat to Buffalo and thence by steamer to Chicago. Shortly after having passed Detroit, another of Esbjörn's children died and was buried in a very primitive coffin in a sandbank on the shores of Lake St. Clair. Rev. Esbjörn himself took sick with the cholera and was compelled to stop in Chicago with his family, only two of his sons going with the rest of the party to Andover. Three weeks later, when Esbjörn arrived there he discovered to his great sorrow that the alert Jonas Hedström had already been there and succeeded in persuading most of the newcomers to leave Andover and come with him to Victoria. Before, this same Hedström had recommended Andover as a suitable place of settlement for the Swedes, but now that he had learned of Esbjörn's unwillingness to become a Methodist he changed his tone, disparaging the place and doing everything to induce his countrymen to move away.

In Andover Esbjörn had to contend with all the customary trials and reverses of pioneer life, such as sickness, poor shelter and lack of suitable food. He succeeded in renting for himself and family a couple of small, stuffy rooms in the attic of Captain Mix's place, a farmhouse situated just outside of the little village, and now owned by the widow Anna Lovisa Gustafsson from Östergötland. The first Sunday Esbjörn preached in Andover, the Francis schoolhouse serving as the meeting-place, he was still so weak that he had to speak seated in a chair. He spoke with intense feeling, taking the words, "In my weakness I am strong," as the text for his introductory remarks. During the ensuing winter, Esbjörn occupied the crowded and uncomfortable quarters aforesaid, but in the meantime he purchased a little farm of ten acres, with primitive buildings, situated south of the timber, down toward Edwards Creek, and moved there in the Spring of 1850.

The Swedish Lutheran Church at Andover

In his work as Swedish Lutheran pastor at Andover, Esbjörn from the very start met with bitter opposition from Jonas Hedström, the Swedish Methodist pastor, who naturally was desirous of retaining the advantage he enjoyed on account of his long term of service in this vicinity. Nor did he miss a single opportunity to poison the minds of the settlers against Esbjörn and his work. In conversations held with individual members of his flock he would make the assertion that the Lutheran Church was spiritually dead; that it was the Babylonian harlot, which every one must shun who would be saved; that the new

Swedish pastor had come to put the free settlers under the bonds of the Swedish state church; that there were no Lutheran congregations in America; that the Methodists were the true Lutherans, etc. Clearly, these and similar utterances from a man who had gained the confidence of the settlers in both wordly and spiritual matters would gain credence among them to a certain extent and hurt Esbjörn in his work. Hedström had the advantage of being backed by the American Methdist Church, from which he received a salary, small as it was, while there was no Lutheran congregation, conference or synod of any kind in this part of the country from which Esbjörn could get aid and advice. He stood entirely alone, and was thrown on his own resources both as to the methods and the means by which to prosecute the work.

In this isolated and difficult position, Esbjörn was obliged to turn to the Illinois branch of the Congregational American Board of Home Missions, at Galesburg, with a request to be taken care of and to get the recommendation of the mission board for aid from its funds. This was in December, 1849. His request was given favorable consideration, and after Esbjörn had personally met with the board, explaining his religious tenets and showing his credentials, the Central Association for its part granted the petition on the following conditions: that Esbjörn, as a member of the association, was to be responsible to that body; that he was to work as a Lutheran pastor, preaching and administering the sacraments, and that his assigned field was Andover and Galesburg, where respectively 180 and 100 Swedes already had settled. It is especially worthy of notice that the association did not impose the condition that Esbjörn should join the Congregational Church, but that he was permitted to continue a Lutheran pastor. An appropriation of $300 was recommended by the association and referred to the mission board in New York which in turn granted the request of Esbjörn. In its letter, dated Jan. 14, 1850, the board stipulates that Esbjörn be appointed to preach the gospel to the Swedish people in Galesburg, Andover and surrounding country for a term of twelve months, under the direction of the Mission Board of the Central Association. The Swedish people in this district were expected to contribute $100 to his support, making a total salary of $400 for the year. He was directed to make a report of his work at the end of each quarter. This appointment was accompanied by a personal letter from Dr. Milton Badger, corresponding secretary of the board of missions, with instructions to Rev. Esbjörn not to admit as members of any congregation persons unable to give evidence of the new birth nor permit such to participate in the Lord's Supper. In his communication Dr. Badger criticises the German Lutherans for admitting members to their congregations by confirmation.

On the ocean voyage and on the journey inland Rev. Esbjörn had preached twice every Sunday to his fellow passengers and daily conducted morning and evening prayers accompanied by brief biblical expositions. This practice he continued after the arrival at Andover, and soon extended his ministerial work to Galesburg, Berlin (Swedona) and Rock Island. At the end of February, 1850, he reported to the aforesaid mission board in New York that he had preached every other Sunday at Andover and Galesburg, respectively, usually twice at each place, conducted evening prayers and Bible exegeses in the private homes, visited the families and the sick, held monthly mission meetings and temperance lectures and circulated religious tracts. From this it appears that from the very outset Esbjörn entered upon his duties with great zeal. In this same report he says that the people in Galesburg had begun to build a Swedish Lutheran meeting-house, toward which $550 already had been subscribed. He expressed the hope that a similar edifice would soon be erected in Andover. He complained, however, about the poverty which was general among his countrymen, causing them so great worry over the question of earning a living that their minds were not sufficiently open to the truth of the gospel; also of the general exodus to California of goldseekers, a movement creating such a stir among the people that they found no time to think about the salvation of their souls. Another cause for complaint was the open avowal of Rev. Jonas Hedström of his purpose to convert all the Swedes to Methodism and bring them into his congregation. Furthermore, former Erik Janssonists living in Galesburg were giving him much trouble by their self-righteousness and spiritual pride.

In the first part of March of the same year Esbjörn could report that the number of persons attending the public services were, at Andover about 70, at Galesburg 80, at Rock Island 30, at Berlin 12, of whom 12 to 15 could be regarded as true Christians; that a temperance society with 43 members had been organized in Andover, and that the proposed Swedish church in Galesburg was in course of erection.

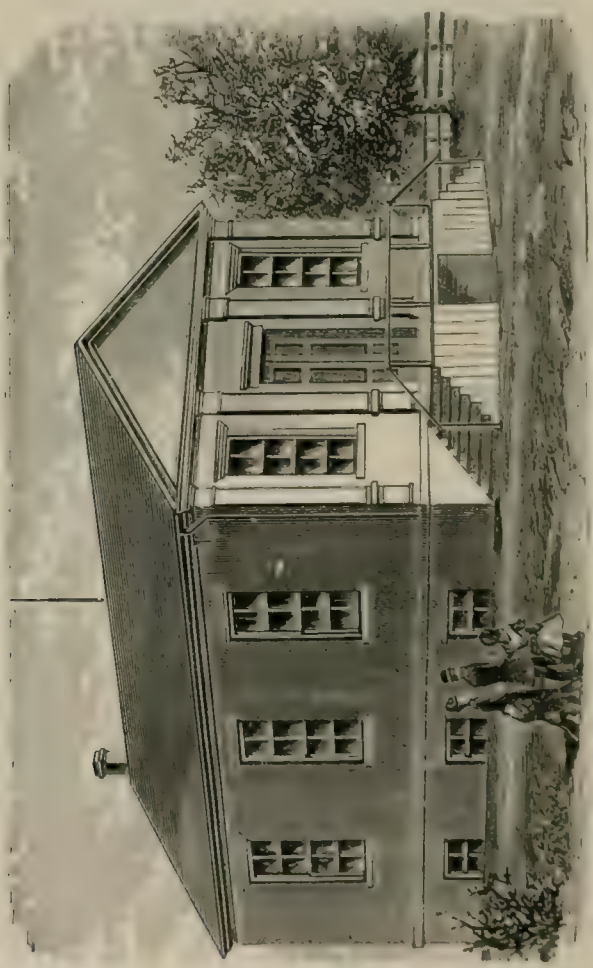
These reports show the actual condition among the people about the time that Esbjörn, on the 18th of March, 1850, in the house of Widow Anna Lovisa Gustafsson, organized the Swedish Lutheran Church of Andover, the first of its kind since the time of the Delaware Swedes. The first members were only ten in number, viz., Rev. Esbjörn and his wife, Jan Andersson, Mats Ersson, O. Nordin, Sam. Jansson, And. Pet. Larsson, Mrs. Jansson, "Christina at Knapp's" and Stina Hellgren. The small number shows how anxious Esbjörn was to follow out his instructions with respect to church membership. But on the 23rd of the same month there was an addition of 30 to 40 members. Among these were Captain Wirström and his wife, also Eric Ulric

Norberg, known for his prominence in the schisms of the Bishop Hill Colony. In the beginning of December the church numbered 46 members and its meetings were attended by an average of 50 to 60 persons. Sunday schools were organized both in Andover and Galesburg simultaneously with the churches.

At first the meetings were held in Esbjörn's home, south of the timber, where the audiences were accommodated in two or three rooms provided with chairs and improvised benches, or else in the Francis schoolhouse. Occasionally, prayer meetings were conducted at the house of Mrs. Gustafsson, known as Captain Mix's place. These people were actuated by a certain degree of religious zeal, a kind of imitation of the enthusiasm of the Methodists. The order of service conformed in the main to that of the Swedish state church, and Rev. Esbjörn retained the ministerial garb of that church. The prayer meetings were frequently attended by Methodists, but the spiritual arrogance displayed by them made their appearance rather disagreeable to Esbjörn. His dependence on the American Congregationalists as well as the fact that he was surrounded by Methodists who lost no opportunity to decry everything that savored of the Swedish state church, caused Esbjörn gradually to accommodate himself to the Reformed order of service to the extent of discarding for a time certain portions of the Swedish church ritual as well as the use of the Pericopes. Not until the early sixties, after the Swedish Lutherans had become an independent church, did Esbjörn resume the position he held at the time of his arrival, that of a strict conformist to the practices as well as the doctrines of the Swedish church. His departure from those practices under the circumstances should not be too severely judged. It was the result more of necessity than of inclination. He was never a noisy revivalist, his religious convictions and Christian experiences being deeper and more temperate than those of his puritanical American associates.

Despite opposition, the little congregation at Andover steadily grew and soon the question of a church building arose. The members were all poor settlers, unable to defray the cost without outside aid. Consequently, Rev. Esbjörn, according to the common custom, was obliged to start out on a soliciting tour. In April, 1851, he left on a trip through Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York and Massachusetts. During the eleven weeks he was out he succeeded in raising not less than $2,200, of which sum Jenny Lind, the renowned Swedish singer, contributed $1,500. Upon his return home in July, he at once began preparations for building. All the members of the church, men and women, were set to work making brick, and the foundation was laid for a structure 45 feet long and 30 feet wide, with basement designed

for school room and sacristy. It was hoped to get the basement ready by Christmas, but rainy weather prevailing during the summer and fall interfered with this plan. The brick was spoiled by the rain and the sawmills in Andover were damaged by floods, whereby the congregation was compelled to go elsewhere for its building material, paying a high price for it, besides having to haul it a distance of thirty miles. Cold weather soon put a stop to the work, but not until the basement had been so nearly finished that services could be held there during the ensuing winter. The basement was still unplastered and only partly under roof, no floor having been laid above and a large opening having been left for the tower.



The First Swedish Lutheran Church in America, 1851

The next summer work was resumed but under still more unfavor-

able conditions. The corn crop failed, no work was to be had, and, to add to the misery of the settlers, a terrible cholera epidemic broke out in the community, making such inroads among the settlers that much of the lumber bought for the church had to be used for coffins for the victims of the scourge.

On Advent Sunday, Dec. 3, 1854, after more than three years of work and sacrifice, the congregation finally dedicated its church edifice, now almost finished. This was a day of great rejoicing, praise and thanksgiving being offered by grateful hearts to the Highest. The church, which seated 300 persons and could accommodate a larger number in an emergency, was considered a great structure for the times, although quite insignificant as compared with the large, handsome Swedish-American churches of our day. It was not built according to any particular style of church architecture, the congregation being contented just so they had a house of worship of some kind. The church was in the form of a long rectangle. The basement was like a dark cave; but was nevertheless used to house newcomers, many of whom died there of the cholera. The pulpit, placed at the middle of one end of the building, and surrounded by a semi-circular altar railing, resembled an old-fashioned Swedish scullery. The upper part of the pulpit, not much larger than a salt barrel cut in half lengthwise, stood crowded back against the wall.

This old church still stands, and, having been recently remodeled, now serves as schoolhouse and meeting hall for the young people's society. When it was proposed several years ago to tear down the old landmark the women pioneers still living arose in protest, calling attention to the part played by them in its construction, and thus the old relic was spared. In front of the church lies the old churchyard where rest so many of the Swedes of Andover.

Up to the autumn of 1852, Esbjörn was the only Swedish Lutheran minister in Illinois. He was then in charge of a pastorate extending about fifty miles from end to end, including Andover, Galesburg, Knoxville, Henderson, Moline and Rock Island. He spent a great deal of time traveling between these points. Roads were bad and bridges few, and traveling in all kinds of weather and under contingent difficulties had a bad effect on his health. In the fall of that year he received well-needed assistance in the work when T. N. Hasselquist arrived from Sweden and took charge of the Galesburg field and a lay preacher named C. J. Valentin was stationed in Moline and Rock Island. Thereby Esbjörn's field was practically limited to Andover and vicinity. But the Andover congregation even then was scattered far and wide over the prairies, including, as it did, Berlin (Swedona), La Grange (Orion), and Hickory Grove (Ophiem), or, in short, all the Swedish Lutheran

settlers in the neighborhood of Andover. Berlin and La Grange soon were made separate charges and subsequently independent congregations. In the fall of 1853 the church numbered 210 communicant members, who contributed a total of $80 to the salary of the pastor.

Rev. Esbjörn and his parishioners at the outset had many bitter feuds with the Methodists led by Rev. Hedström, and several other religious groups. Ere long, however, the Lutherans and Methodists had to stop fighting between themselves and turn toward their common opponents and competitors, the Baptists, who in the summer of 1852 commenced operations, led by Gustaf Palmquist, a former schoolmaster, who had come over the year before and at first served as Lutheran preacher in Galesburg. Palmquist made a few converts among the Lutherans, but the principal harvest was reaped among the Methodists. Although the hotbed of the Baptist movement was at first Galesburg and afterward Rock Island, the Andover congregation did not entirely escape being influenced. But Rev. Esbjörn proved to be a wide-awake shepherd who successfully thwarted the efforts made to scatter his little flock.

After a series of hot encounters with Methodists and Baptists, from which the Lutheran pastor and his flock seem to have emerged with a deepened sense of the worth of the evangelical Lutheran confession, the congregation grew both in numbers and in inward stability. The order of service and ecclesiastical practices of the old country were more fully adhered to, while greater importance was attached to soundness in spiritual life. Peace having eventually been restored in the church, renewed disturbances occurred when one B. G. P. Bergenlund, in the summer of 1855, after having been appointed assistant pastor and school teacher, began to cast aspersions on Rev. Esbjörn and his work, at the same time giving offense and scandalizing the church by conduct unbecoming a pastor and a Christian. Bergenlund, apparently a native of Ignaberga, in the province of Skane, and a man of education, had come to this country in January, 1853, stopping in Jamestown, N. Y. There and in Sugar Grove, Pa., he began preaching to his fellow countrymen and in the fall of the same year came to Illinois at the suggestion of Rev. Hasselquist. Having passed examination, he was licensed by the Synod of Northern Illinois as a regular preacher, whereupon he returned to Jamestown and Sugar Grove. By his unseemly behavior he spoiled his reputation in less than a year and was forced to leave. In May, 1855, he appeared in Moline, where he took ministerial charge of the Swedish Lutheran congregation without notifying Esbjörn. When the congregation showed a disinclination to receive him, he left for Andover where he insinuated himself into the confidence and friendship of the people by going from house to house. In this manner

Esbjörn had forced upon him an assistant whom he had not asked for and did not want, but whose functions he endeavored to restrict by means of written instructions. Bergenlund, who had so little regard for the proprieties that he would preach high mass in highly inappropriate dress, including heavy gloves, nevertheless gained a firm foothold in the community and soon began to act in total disregard of his written instructions. At the annual meeting of the Synod of Northern Illinois in 1855, Esbjörn was appointed traveling solicitor of funds for a Scandinavian professorship at the Illinois University at Springfield, the theological school of that synod. From the early part of the year 1856, when Esbjörn engaged in that work, Bergenlund had free hands. Tiring of the arrogant and arbitrary actions of this man, Esbjörn after a couple of months resigned his pastorate. In March he was seriously considering a removal to the new Swedish settlement of Stockholm, now Lake Pepin, Wis., but later in the spring he received a call from the Swedish Lutheran Church in Princeton, Ill., which he accepted, removing there in August. Bergenlund continued operations in Andover, but before the end of the year the parishioners had their eyes opened to the eccentricities of their pastor and resolved to call Rev. M. F. Hokanson, of New Sweden, Iowa. Bergenlund still had a small party back of him, which made it possible for him to hold on for a short time, but he had lost confidence generally. In the summer of 1857, he was compelled to leave Andover and the next fall the Synod of Northern Illinois refused to renew his preacher's license. After drifting about from place to place, mostly in Minnesota, he came back in 1860, after the Scandinavian Lutherans had separated from the Synod of Northern Illinois and formed the Augustana Synod. He was then re-admitted into the Synod of Northern Illinois and ordained minister. He now began to make vehement attacks on the Augustana Synod, but more particularly on Esbjörn. After a few years he returned to Sweden where he succeeded in gaining admittance to the state church and obtain a charge in the bishopric of Göteborg, where still perserving in his erratic ways he gave old Bishop Björk a great deal of annoyance.

The Andover church, having been disappointed in Bergenlund, called as its pastor Rev. P. Petersson of the bishopric of Vexiö, Sweden, who promised to accept, but was unable to keep his promise. After having been served temporarily by Rev. O. C. T. Andrén of Moline, the church in the spring of 1858 issued a call to Rev. Jonas Swensson of Sugar Grove, Pa., who had arrived from Sweden two years before. After due consideration, he accepted the call and removed to his new field in September of that year. His arrival marked the beginning of a new epoch in the history of the Andover church. But before entering on that period we will briefly review the further career of his predecessor.

Rev. Esbjörn's Later Career

From Andover Esbjörn removed to Princeton. Here he remained only two years. During this short period he accomplished much, including the work in connection with the erection of a church. In spite of illness, he worked strenuously and with marked success for the spiritual development of his congregation. The people became more interested in churchly affairs and listened more attentively to the sermons; furthermore, the services were made still more attractive by means of better singing, resulting from earnest practice, encouraged by the pastor himself, not to mention other improvements.

At the task of collecting funds for the Scandinavian professorship of the seminary, Esbjörn, who was an experienced solicitor, succeeded admirably. When the time arrived to appoint the incumbent of that chair, Esbjörn was chosen as the most suitable man available and assumed the position in the fall of 1858. After two years a combination of circumstances compelled him to resign. He then went to Chicago in April, 1860, accompanied by all but two of the Scandinavian students, and there continued teaching. Dissatisfied with their relations with the Synod of Northern Illinois, the Scandinavian Lutherans in June of that year met near Clinton, Wis., and organized an independend synod, called the Augustana Synod, and resolved to establish a theological school of their own in Chicago, the Augustana Theological Seminary, virtually a continuation of the school conducted for the past few weeks by Esbjörn. Rev. Esbjörn was formally chosen head of the institution, continuing his work as teacher with good results for three years.

With all his soul Rev. Esbjörn had thrown himself into the work of raising his fellow countrymen in America to a higher level, and in his tireless endeavor in various fields he scarcely took notice of the rapid flight of time. At first he had felt no symptoms of homesickness, being too busy to think of that, but with advancing years — he was now past fifty — he began to long back to the country of which he was part and parcel through birth and early training. There were also economic reasons for his home-sickness. For all these reasons Esbjörn in 1863 returned to his native land after fourteen years of fruitful work among his countrymen in America. During this period great changes had taken place in Sweden. That temperance legislation for which Wieselgren, Fjellstedt and, last but not least, Esbjörn had fought was now an accomplished fact, the private distillery system having been abolished by the riksdag of 1854, and the work for spiritual enlightenment no longer meeting with the same stubborn resistance as before. Thoroughly tried in life's battle, the stern reformer, who before his departure from Sweden failed to obtain a certain pastorate

on account of his temperance views and other "newfangled notions," was now met with open arms and was given the very lucrative rectorate of Öster-Vahla parish, in Upland, thus being recompensed even in a pecuniary way for all his privations in a foreign land. In this quiet spot he labored for seven years, dividing his time between his pastoral duties and private study and research, which had been his hobby from early youth, such as mathematics, chemistry and astronomy, besides theology. In the meantime he closely followed the rapid progress made by the church he had founded in America, and nothing gave him greater pleasure than a visit by some one of his former co-workers in this country.

Esbjörn was the author of ten published books and pamphlets on various topics.

The burden of years grew steadily heavier, health and bodily vigor gave way, and soon the eve of rest for this indefatigable laborer had arrived. After only a month of actual illness Rev. L. P. Esbjörn passed away in the Öster-Vâhla parsonage, July 2, 1870, in the sixty-second year of his life, and was buried in the parish churchyard. A few years ago a handsome monument was erected on his grave to mark the last resting-place of this eminent Swedish-American pioneer.

The sermons of Rev. Esbjörn were highly edifying, but he was by no means an orator in the ordinary sense of the term. His voice was ruined in the early part of his career through sickness and over-exertion, and he never affected eloquence. His discourses were nevertheless very captivating by dint of his lucid logic, his clear and profound ideas and the simplicity of his diction. He was a man of clear and well-balanced mind, pre-eminently fitting him for the profession both of preacher and educator. As a man Esbjörn was devout and warm-hearted, unselfish almost to a fault, righteous, unaffected and without pride or vainglory. He was translucent, so to speak, and in his character there was nothing to hide. Although not really credulous, and being a good judge of men, he would sometimes be imposed upon, owing to his sheer goodness of heart.

Before emigrating to America, Esbjörn was married to Miss Amalia Maria Lovisa Planting-Gyllenbåga, a devout and refined lady, who held the same religious views as he. Poverty, illness and numerous reverses had given her a despondent and melancholy disposition. Their children were: Paul, who died in the Civil War in 1861, while on duty in Missouri; Johannes, who returned to Sweden in 1863, entered the railway service and is now living in Karlskrona; Joseph, who also served in the Civil War, was retired as captain, and is now living in Minneapolis, Minn.; Maria, who married a German Lutheran clergyman named Schnur, and died many years ago, and two sons, twins, who died on the voyage to America. July 11, 1852, Mrs. Esbjörn died

in Andover and lies buried in the old churchyard. Subsequently, Esbjörn was twice remarried, first to Helena Catharina Magnusson, who was born at Sund, Östergötland, June 29, 1827, and died in Andover, Sept. 15, 1853; afterward to her sister Gustafva Albertina Magnusson, born at Sund in 1833. The children of the latter union still living are: Rev. C. M. Esbjörn, Ph. D., minister of the Augustana Synod; Prof. C. L. E. Esbjörn, of Augustana College, at Rock Island, Ill.; and two daughters, Maria and Hanna. Another son, Paul Oscar Esbjörn, a physician of Stanton, Ia., died in 1908.

Rev. Jonas Swensson

Jonas Swensson, who supplanted the erratic Rev. Bergenlund as pastor of the Andover church, where he labored for a long term of years, is another pioneer and early leader of the Swedish Lutheran Church in America. He was born at Snollebo, parish of Vathult, Småland, Aug. 16, 1828. His parents were Sven Mansson and his wife Catharina Jonasson. In the parental home he received a careful Christian training, the foundation for his subsequent career. In his early youth he had a desire to study for the ministry, but such a course seemed to have been closed to him by his father's death when he was but nine years old, together with the fact that there were six other children in the home to be provided for. But later on the outlook cleared. After his confirmation he became a blacksmith's apprentice, but abandoned that occupation to enter the teachers' seminary at Vexiö in 1846. While there, his early plan was revived and that summer he took up private studies in theology with his teacher, Rev. Josef Bexell, and in 1847 continued these studies for the curate of Bredaryd parish. At the end of August he went to Jönköping, entering the rector's class at the school in that city, and was very favorably received by the rector, Rev. Fileen. In two terms he finished his courses and entered the gymnasium at Vexiö in the fall of 1848. Here he studied for two years, until September, 1850, when he passed his final examinations. July 29, 1849, in the Hemmesjö church, Swensson preached his first sermon, and after that he frequently, while still a student, filled the pulpits of other churches in Småland.

Sept. 24, 1850, he was graduated into the university of Upsala with high standing. He at once took up the theological course at the university and passed final examination in June, 1851. The following October he was examined for entry into the ministry before the Vexio chapter and, on the 8th of the month, was ordained minister and assigned as curate to Rector Andrén at Unnaryd. Swensson's exceptional capacity for study is shown by the fact that he finished both elementary and theological studies in about five years. Many who

had known the tall and sturdy youth as a blacksmith's apprentice or as a pupil at the elementary school at Vexiö were greatly surprised to find him in the ministry in so short a time. At Unnaryd and Jälluntofta Swensson now labored for four and one-half years, till the spring of 1856.

Himself an earnest Christian from his school days, Swensson strove zealously to awaken and maintain the new life among the members of his church. His own Christianity being most profound, he had little sympathy for the superficial new evangelism that was gaining ground in Sweden about this time. From the very beginning of his pastoral career he carefully prepared his sermons and committed them to writing, thereby laying the foundation for that system and order which characterized his work throughout life. From many neighboring parishes people flocked to hear him, and, young as he was, he became the spiritual father and counselor of many. In spite of a severe affection of the lungs, he continued his work with undiminished vigor and was eventually restored to health, contrary to the expectations of himself and his friends.

His reputation as an earnest and devout preacher had crossed the ocean with the emigrants, and on the 24th of June, 1855, he received a letter from Dr. Peter Fjellstedt containing a call for him to become pastor of the Swedish Lutheran congregation at Sugar Grove, Pa. His first thought was to decline positively, but the more he considered the matter, the more clearly he discerned it as his duty to accept. In August the same year he had a personal meeting with Dr. Fjellstedt, when that devout and warm-hearted divine urged him to go to the assistance of his countrymen in the West. Dr. Fjellstedt promised to help him procure the needed funds and to render every assistance. Finally Swensson, after much trepidation, decided to accept the call, although still very much worried over the pecuniary phase of the situation, which seemed all the more grave as he was about to marry his betrothed, Miss Maria Blixt of Unnaryd.

The marriage took place March 29, 1856, and on April 6th he preached his farewell sermon in the Unnaryd church, followed by similar sermons in various churches in the vicinity. Everywhere his many friends contributed more or less freely toward his traveling expenses, so that on reaching Göteborg with his bride he had no less than 800 crowns at his disposal, without having borrowed a penny. Here the young couple were detained from April 22nd to May 20th, before embarking on the ship "Minona" for America. With prayers and blessings for friends left behind, he sailed away from his native land which he was never to see again. After a voyage of six weeks' duration, they reached New York on the very birthday of the republic, July 4th. The 11th of the same month he arrived at Sugar Grove, and preach-

ed his first sermon there two days later. His first impression of the people was not entirely favorable. Even those who confessed themselves Christians seemed strange to him. On every hand liberty seemed to have been turned into license. All this set him wondering whether, after all, his field of greatest usefulness did not lie in the old country.

His doubts as to his calling and the resultant melancholy were somewhat relieved when in the fall of the same year he visited Illinois



Rev. Jonas Swensson

and here met elder brethren whose acquaintance and fellowship gave him new courage. During the conference and synod meetings he attended he sat quietly listening to the proceedings, never uttering a word. But no one followed the transactions more attentively than he. After having preached in several of the Swedish churches here, he returned to the East and took up his work with renewed energy.

In Sugar Grove a little frame church had been built before Rev. Swensson's arrival, but it was not yet finished, and the parsonage was still in course of erection. In Jamestown, where Swensson was also to preach, there was no church edifice. Strife and differences existing with respect to the temporal affairs of the churches were a constant

source of worry and sorrow to a man of his sensitive nature, but what affected him still more was the spiritual indifference and the bitter partisanship stirred up by the aforesaid Bergenlund and by the Methodists. Such a condition naturally revolted against Swensson's strict sense of propriety and his devotion to good order in the church. His concern for the welfare of the congregations, however, kept him at his post. Not even the flattering call to become assistant to Rev. Erland Carlsson of the Immanuel Church in Chicago could induce him to leave.

But there came a time when he thought it his duty to leave his first field of labor in this country. The church at Andover was about to be torn asunder by internal dissensions fomented by the intrigues of Bergenlund, and stood in great need of an able and energetic pastor. Such a man was found in Rev. Swensson, to whom a call was extended in June, 1858. At the earnest solicitations of his brethren, who were familiar with the sad state of affairs, he accepted the call and removed to his new charge the following September. Here, as in Sugar Grove and Jamestown, he had to reap the bitter fruits of Bergenlund's operations. With his installation as pastor of the Andover church Sept. 19th, Swensson's main life work began. For fifteen years he remained here, doing a great work not only for the local church but also in behalf of the entire Augustana Synod. For this reason the Synod classes Rev. Jonas Swensson as one of its founders and pioneers. The Andover congregation which had a membership of 356 when Rev. Esbjörn left, had increased to 400 when Swensson arrived. The settlement developed rapidly in every direction. As early as 1858 a church was built in that part of the locality known as Berlin, situated eight miles away, and on the 17th of February, 1859, a congregation was organized at that place. Next in order the Woodhull congregation was organized in 1868, followed by the New Windsor church in 1869, that of Orion in 1870, and finally the Cambridge congregation in 1875. At all these places Rev. Swensson alone preached for many years. At Berlin he held services regularly every other Saturday until 1866 when the church obtained a pastor of its own. Considering that Swensson usually preached two or three times each Sunday, held catechetical meetings at certain seasons of the year in the various districts of the settlement, made numerous visits to the sick, attended synods, conferences and other church conventions, often visited and preached in vacant congregations, and also looked out for the financial interests of his own church, meanwhile being almost constantly hampered by sickness in his own family, it appears that Swensson was a very busy man. The wonder is that he found time for it all. During the last three years of his life, he was also president of the synod, an office which alone would give

the average clergyman all that he could do. For several years prior, Swensson held the position of synodical secretary.

Although in good health, it seems a miracle that Swensson, strenuously as he worked, did not give out much earlier than he did. It never occurred to him to husband his strength. He considered it his



The Present Swedish Lutheran Church, Andover

duty to sacrifice himself in the service of the church and at no time could he be persuaded to take a few months' rest. Often, after spending eight or nine hours in church, preaching, catechising and administering the sacraments, as on confirmation days, he would sit up till twelve o'clock with a few intimate friends, talking, singing and playing, yet the next morning would find him up at four and busy currying the

horses in order to be ready to start out on his official rounds immediately after breakfast.

The little church which had been erected during Rev. Esbjörn's term of service at Andover, shortly after Rev. Swensson's coming was found too small, and in 1864 it was decided to erect a new one. The work on the new building, which was not begun until 1867, gave Rev. Swensson, as well as the church council and the building committee, a great deal of additional work and worry. On Nov. 15, 1868, the congregation moved into the new edifice, this being made the occasion of an impressive jubilee celebration. The new church, however, was not finished until 1874, the year after Rev. Swensson's death, when it was dedicated with solemn ceremonies on the 23rd day of August. The church completed represented an outlay of $30,985, not counting the work performed gratuitously by members of the congregation. This church still stands as a fitting monument to Rev. Swensson and his noble endeavors, in the same sense that the old one was a testimonial to the energy of his predecessor, Esbjörn. During the last year of Swensson's life, the congregation attained to a membership of 1,855, of whom 951 were communicants.

As a preacher, Swensson was always popular. When he got thoroughly warmed up on a certain text, he would preach for two or three hours without a sign of physical exhaustion or waning interest in his topic. He never affected oratory or poetic flights of imagination, his sermons, simple and logical, addressing themselves to the reason and not to the feelings of his audience. His preaching was principally of the didactic order, bearing a striking resemblance to that of the famous Swedish preacher Anders Nohrborg. Swensson had an aversion to preaching or speaking at public celebrations and festive occasions. He was a model shepherd of his flock. The sick he visited with a regularity prompted by large-hearted sympathy rather than a sense of official duty, and he was never known to neglect a sickbed on account of inclement weather, bad roads or unseasonable hours, day or night. In his frequent travels between the distant points under his spiritual charge, he became an expert driver, with few rivals in the art of handling horses. He was generally in a hurry, this good parson, and when he whizzed by on his regular tours between Andover and Berlin, puffing great clouds of smoke from his pipe, he bore more than a remote resemblance to a railway locomotive going with a full head of steam. He was equally conscientious and businesslike in his attention to his duties as president of the synod. Its sessions were conducted in an orderly, parliamentary manner and with scrupulous fairness to all sides. He had a tender heart and, although a man of meager income, he would invariably give a helping hand to those in need. Swensson was of tall

stature and fine build, and possessed a powerful, though rather inflexible and unmusical voice, which carried well even in as large an auditorium as that of the new Andover church. In his personality he combined dignity with artlessness and simplicity. He abhorred hypocrisy and affectation. While reticent in a crowd, he was a good talker and an entertaining companion among his intimate friends.

During his later years, Swensson was subject to attacks of gout accompanied by spasms, followed by fainting spells. This affection caused his death. He passed away in his home at Andover Dec. 20, 1873, at the early age of forty-five. His wife survived him by only one year. A monument erected by the congregation marks the spot in the old church-yard where reposes this energetic and faithful pastor of the Andover church. He left four children, three sons and one daughter, viz., Rev. Carl Aron Swensson, Ph. D., renowned as the founder and president of Bethany College, at Lindsborg, Kans., who died in Los Angeles, Cal., Feb. 16, 1904; John Swensson, manager of the Gustaf Adolf orphanage at Jamestown, N. Y.; Luther Swensson, former postmaster at Lindsborg, Kans., and Mrs. Anna Carlsson of Lindsborg.

Rev. Swensson's duties as preacher and pastor left him no time for literary work. A modest little pamphlet on a religious topic, published by him while still in Sweden, is the only published product of his pen.

Omitting details, the further story of the Andover church may be briefly told. After a vacancy of one and one-half years, Rev. Swensson's place was filled in the spring of 1875 by Rev. Erland Carlsson, of Chicago, another of the venerable pioneers of the Swedish Lutheran Church of America. He had charge until 1884, when ill health compelled him to resign. In 1875 a parsonage was built at a cost of $3,600.

Rev. Carlsson devoted himself to the watering of the spiritual seed sown by Swensson in this field, and in this as well as in his efforts to educate the children and keep the young people in the church he succeeded remarkably well. After being three years without a permanent pastor, the church in 1887 called Rev. Victor Setterdahl who labored here for a period of eighteen years, or until the spring of 1905. In March, 1900, the fiftieth anniversary of the Andover church was celebrated with festivities befitting the occasion. The successor of Setterdahl is Rev. Carl P. Edblom. In 1906, the church had a total membership of 1,120, of whom 684 were communicants.

The Andover church is not only the oldest of the Swedish Lutheran churches in this country but also one of the richest, most stable and most conservative. It would be hard to find a church anywhere whose members are so generally well to do and financially independent as are the parishioners of Andover. A visitor today does not easily realize

that little more than half a century ago the first Swedish settlers began to build homes in this locality, organize themselves into a congregation and erect a church, all this under the most discouraging conditions.

Rev. Tuve Nilsson Hasselquist

The second in order of the ministers of the Swedish state church who came over during the pioneer days in order to minister to the spiritual wants of their poor and widely scattered fellow countrymen in Illinois was Rev. T. N. Hasselquist from Skane. He came here in the autumn of 1852 and for almost forty years aided in framing and upbuilding the Swedish Lutheran Church of America in various capacities, as pastor, as editor of the church paper and for a period of thirty years as president of its college and theological seminary. Esbjörn and Hasselquist are the central figures around which are grouped all the principal events of the early days of the Swedish Lutheran Church of this country. While the work of Esbjörn, the founder, is of primary importance to Swedish Lutherans in Illinois and all America, that of Hasselquist was no less significant, including, as it did, both the task of developing and establishing the church on the foundations already laid and of taking up new lines of work, for instance, the founding of the first Swedish newspaper in the United States as the organ of that church.

Tuve Nilsson Hasselquist was born in the parish of Ousby, in northern Skåne, March 2, 1816. His parents were country folk of the substantial sort. Their sons were given a fairly thorough education at home. Rev. Collin, the rector of the parish, having noticed that the boy Tuve had a good head for study, urged his father to send him to school to fit him for a learned career. Consequently, at the age of fourteen, he entered a school at Kristianstad and there adopted the name of Hasselquist, from that of his native place Hasslaröd.

After only five years, young Hasselquist passed the examination for admission to the university of Lund, where he began his theological studies after being engaged for some time as a private tutor. He was examined for the ministry by the Lund chapter and ordained by Bishop Faxe the day before midsummer, in 1839, being at once appointed curate of the parishes of Everlöf and Slimminge. Here he remained for one year, and was subsequently assigned to Kristianstad. After another year, he was transferred in 1842 to the parishes of Glimåkra and Örkened in the northeast corner of the province.

Young as he was, Rev. Hasselquist was already widely known for his true Christian character and his devotion to his pastoral calling. His sermons were full of spirit and power. Not confining himself to the Sunday morning sermon, he held Bible study meetings on Sunday

afternoons and other religious meetings here and there in the parish during the week. He had the reputation of being a very earnest "revivalist preacher," and was a zealous temperance advocate, often appearing on the same platform with that warm-hearted temperance agitator Pehr Wieselgren.

In 1845, after serving there for three years, he became curate under old Rector Nordström of Önnestad, after whose death he became temporary rector of the church. The arrival of Hasselquist to Önnestad marked the beginning of a period of spiritual revival for that locality. He labored assiduously, sowing the seed of truth, and was gratified to notice that it bore rich fruit. Toward the end of the forties, Hasselquist was assigned as curate to Åkarp and Wittsjö, in northern Skane, where he labored for several years. His time of service as assistant pastor was thirteen years in all. His frequent transfers from place to place gave him the advantage of an extensive personal acquaintance throughout a large part of northern Skane. He thus became widely known for his Christian zeal and sincerity, his ability as a preacher and his earnest efforts to substitute good morals for the prevalent license of the times.

Had he remained in Sweden, Hasselquist would doubtless very soon have occupied a prominent place among the clergy. But providence had decreed that he was to serve, not the state church of Sweden, but the Lutheran Church at large by becoming a pioneer of Lutheranism and of general culture in a foreign land. It was a trifling circumstance that primarily brought about Hasselquist's emigration. Rev. Esbjörn greatly needed an assistant in his work among the Swedes of Illinois, and was casting about for a suitable man. The outlook was not encouraging, and for a time it seemed as though these people were to be left to the choice between joining American churches and living without any church connections whatever. At this juncture, a settler named Ola Nilsson, hailing from Önnestad, came to the assistance of Rev. Esbjörn. He knew Hasselquist well and suggested that he would undoubtedly come, provided he were fully convinced of the urgent need of spiritual workers among his fellow countrymen here.

Rev. Esbjörn promptly followed his friend's advice. He arranged to have the newly organized congregation in Galesburg call Hasselquist as pastor, with the promise of a small salary. In addition, Esbjörn obtained a small appropriation from the American Board of Home Missions. Rev. Hasselquist received the call in the early part of the year 1852. Looking upon it as a call not only from the Swedes of Galesburg, but directly from God, he accepted it without hesitation, although his chances for promotion in the state church were the best.

Before starting on his long and significant voyage, he was united

in marriage to his heart's choice, Miss Eva Helena Cervin of Kristianstad, a woman of exceptional strength of character, who was to be of inestimable assistance to him in the great work he was about to undertake in the new country.

Accompanied by his bride and a party of sixty emigrants from northern Skåne, Hasselquist left for America late in the summer of 1852. The party arrived in New York Sept. 28th, thence taking the usual route to Chicago. The Synod of Northern Illinois was just in session in the latter city, and there Hasselquist and Esbjörn now met for the first time. We can readily imagine the cordiality of this meeting. Hasselquist was at once admitted to the synod and soon thereafter preached his first sermon in this country. After adjournment of the synod, he left for Andover, whence Esbjörn took him and his wife across country to Galesburg, a twenty-five mile ride over the worst kind of country roads.

The reception accorded the new pastor by his church was rather discouraging. It was a raw and drizzly autumn day. Everything about the place had a poverty-stricken appearance. There was no delegation of church members to bid him welcome, and no home in readiness to receive him. Just outside the town, Esbjörn with his guests met a Swedish settler, and, thinking to please the man, introduced Hasselquist as the new Swedish pastor. Instead of politely bidding him welcome, the Swede rudely inquired, "What business has he got to come here?"

The congregation in Galesburg was a very small one. Organized in 1851, just a year before, it had only a few members, all poor, and neither a church nor a parsonage. All this might have been ignored, however, had it only been what it purported to be, a Lutheran church, but such was not the case. It was more Congregationalist than anything else, being under the influence of the American Congregationalists, with students from Knox College, a Congregationalist institution, conducting its Sunday school.

Rev. Hasselquist and his bride were assigned quarters in a little shanty, half of which was occupied by a former Erik Janssonist, addicted to drink. The man was comparatively peaceable, but his wife was a veritable virago who kept lecturing and cursing her liege lord from morning till night. Here, indeed, extremes met under one roof: on one side of the partition there was quarreling and cursing, on the other, praying and singing. The Hasselquists occupied two rooms, the one fair-sized, the other a mere closet. The first was made to serve as sitting-room, study, parlor, kitchen and bedchamber combined. The furniture was in keeping with some of these functions, while most of the things making for home comfort were lacking. At first they had

no bed, but slept on the floor; the trunk in which Hasselquist had brought his books had to do duty as a dining table. The roof of this primitive dwelling leaked so badly that the floor was flooded every time it rained.



Hasselquist's First Home in Galesburg

Thus Rev. Hasselquist began his labors in Galesburg under anything but favorable auspices. Not only was the congregation a small and poor one, and split up by divergences in religious beliefs, but worse still, there was a general opinion decidedly antagonistic to Swedish

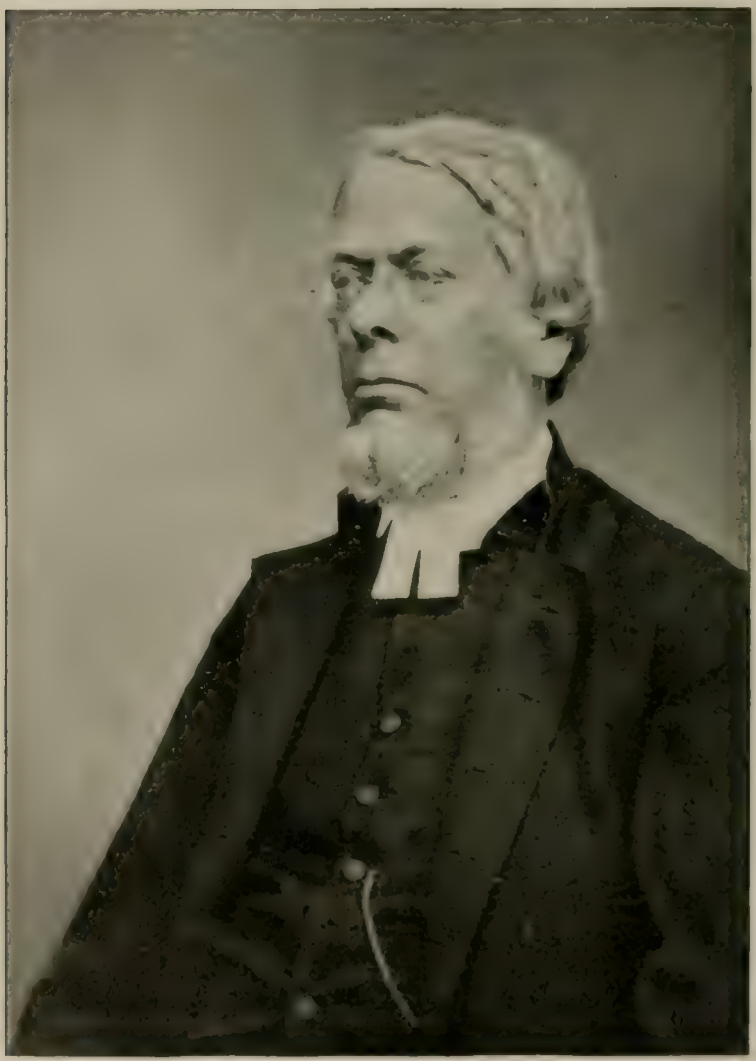
Lutheran church work in this locality. From the neighboring Bishop Hill colony many persons who had tired of the Prophet Erik Jansson and now were indifferent to religion in any form had moved into Galesburg. On the other hand, there was the Swedish Methodist stronghold at Victoria which had extended its operations to Galesburg and there made many converts. And after the year 1852 the Baptists added a third element of opposition. To all these people a Swedish Lutheran clergyman, in the garb of the state church and following its prescribed ritual, was not much better than a Catholic. The Methodists, in particular, made Esbjörn and Hasselquist out to be spiritually dead, although in the old country these same men had been looked upon as altogether too zealous and devout in their Christianity to suit the free and easy church members.

By his preaching and his living, Hasselquist, however, soon disproved the statements of his antagonists. But he found greater difficulty in overcoming the prejudices entertained against him by the professors at Knox College. These men evidently held a poor opinion of the Swedish clergy to whom they considered themselves far superior in every respect. Eventually, they learned to know him as a man of erudition, zeal and earnestness in his calling, qualities which compelled their respect.

Among the very first cares that fell upon Hasselquist's shoulders was the task of raising funds for a church building. With much difficulty the means were procured and a church erected, which not long after was found inadequate and had to be enlarged. The field was constantly being extended, so that at the synodical meeting of 1853 Hasselquist could report that his pastorate consisted of no less than four congregations, with a total of 191 communicants. The four congregations referred to were those of Galesburg and Knoxville and, supposedly, Wataga and Altona. The Sunday school of the Galesburg congregation, which up to that time had been in the hands of the Congregationalists, was reorganized in August, 1853, and at that time consisted of five teachers and 27 pupils.

Rev. Hasselquist remained at Galesburg for eleven years. During this period, besides his pastoral work in the local field, he carried on an extensive missionary work both in Illinois and in adjacent states. Numberless were his journeys during these eleven years, and beset with the hardships that attended travel in those days, when railroads were still unknown in this territory. A number of new congregations were founded by him, among which the Immanuel Church of Chicago. His missionary field extended eastward all the way to New York and to the north as far as Minnesota. In the new country Hasselquist evinced the same qualities that distinguished him in Sweden, only in

a more potent degree. His zeal was increased and his love of his fellow countrymen grew in warmth when he saw what was their condition, spiritually and materially.



Rev. Tuve Nilsson Hasselquist

In the intense opposition he encountered, even within his own church, he had ample cause for not strictly adhering to the ritualism of the state church of Sweden. Within and without his congregation there were many who cherished not the slightest respect for the re-

ligious usages of their forefathers, but had the greatest admiration for everything that they knew or supposed to be American.

Among the growing number of Swedish Lutheran churches of America Hasselquist early came to be recognized as a very efficient man. And when the Augustana Synod was organized he was chosen its first president. To this responsible position he was subsequently re-elected each year for a decade. This was the patriarchal period in the history of the synod. Hasselquist was no stickler on parliamentary law, the main thing with him being to get a clear and many-sided view of the subject in hand for the purpose of arriving at a good, sensible decision. Whether or not such decision was in accord with the intricate rules of debate caused him no worry. Nevertheless, he could not be accused of despotism or arbitrariness. He was simply a father among the brethren. Though not in name, yet in fact he was the bishop of the widely scattered congregations of the synod, among which he made frequent official visits, learning to know his people and becoming known by them.

The life work of Hasselquist, however, was neither that of a pastor nor of a synodical president; it was to be performed in the capacity of president of the Augustana Theological Seminary, to which was subsequently added a complete college. In 1863 Hasselquist was elected the successor of Rev. Esbjörn as president of that institution, a position in which he was destined to exert a far-reaching influence.

Previous reference has been made to Hasselquist as the founder of the Swedish press of the United States. He earned that title in the autumn of 1854 when he began preparations for publishing from Galesburg "Gamla och Nya Hemlandet," the first Swedish-American newspaper, whose first issue appeared on Jan.3, the following year. Hasselquist held the position of editor for four years, until 1858. In 1856 he also founded a religious paper, "Det Rätta Hemlandet," from which sprung "Augustana," the present organ of the Augustana Synod. From 1868 to 1889 this paper was published under the name of "Augustana och Missionären," Hasselquist continuing these twenty-one years as its editor. He is also author of several books of a religious character.

In 1881 Rev. Hasselquist lost his wife through death, their daughter Hanna having died four years before; and ten years after his wife's death the venerable patriarch himself passed away. He died Feb. 4, 1891, and at his funeral both the speakers and the great silent assemblage bore testimony to the great loss sustained by the Swedish-American nationality. Hasselquist left two sons, Nathanael and Joshua, and a daughter, Esther.

Among the marks of distinction conferred upon Hasselquist may

mentioned the title of Doctor of Divinity by Muhlenberg College and the order of the Polar Star by King Oscar of Sweden.

Lutheran Work in Galesburg

The foundation for Swedish Lutheran church work in Galesburg was laid in November, 1849, by Rev. L. P. Esbjörn. In the early part of 1850, the building of a small meeting-house was begun at his suggestion and with his coöperation. The sum of $550 was subscribed as early as Feb. 28th. Although many Americans interested themselves in the undertaking, the work was delayed, and not until the latter part of May the foundation, outer walls and steeple were constructed. The foundation was of brick, the superstructure of frame and the dimensions of the building were, length, 40 feet, width, 30 feet, and height, 18 feet. As yet, the congregation had not been organized, owing to the opposition of the Methodists.

Aug. 24, 1851, Rev. Esbjörn, on request, held communion services at Galesburg and after services the names of those wishing to become members of a Swedish Lutheran congregation were asked to give their names. Forty persons responded and these constituted the first Swedish Lutheran congregation of that city. In the fall of the same year, Rev. Esbjörn designated Gustaf Palmquist, a former school-teacher from Sweden, as pastor of the church. He gained the confidence of the people, but being a Baptist at heart, although not a confessed one, his work was not calculated to strengthen, but rather to disrupt and weaken the church, whose members were already wavering between the Methodist and the Congregational faith. In June, 1852, Palmquist joined the Baptists and celebrated the event by calling a jubilee meeting in the Lutheran meeting-house, at which he declared that not until now had he obeyed the will of God in receiving the Christian baptism. To show the nature of the Methodist opposition to Lutheran work in Galesburg it may be stated that Rev. Jonas Hedström, by spreading the report that the Swedish Lutherans in the place were a mere handful, that they differed very little from the Catholics, succeeded in dampening the interest of the Americans in the Lutheran meeting-house to the extent that many of them repudiated their subscriptions toward its erection. By intrigue, the building, before completion, fell into the hands of the American Methodists, the Lutherans, however, being privileged to use it. After the arrival of Rev. Hasselquist, the Swedish Lutheran congregation purchased the building for the sum of $1,600, and shortly afterward had it enlarged. This first church edifice stood on the same spot where the present church is located. Having now a house of worship of their own, the Swedish Lutherans were in a better position to avoid undue influence from the other denominations. The

church was neither lighted nor provided with seats, making it necessary for the churchgoers to bring their own chairs and tallow candles. In spite of the latter, the gloom that pervaded the edifice of a Sunday night was so dense that the preacher was scarcely able to distinguish his hearers.

In the cholera epidemic of 1854, the church suffered the loss of a number of members. The scourge, however, had the effect of causing a spiritual revival among the survivors, and Hasselquist seized this favorable opportunity to work upon the hearts of his flock by holding meetings every evening for one week during the month of August. He was



The First Swedish Lutheran Church of Galesburg, Erected in 1852

assisted by Rev. M. F. Hokanson of New Sweden, Ia. The result of the week's work was that about one hundred persons applied for membership in the churches at Galesburg and Knoxville. In the latter place the ravages of the pest were greater than at Galesburg, craving no less than forty victims among the Swedes.

In the fall of 1855, Rev. Hasselquist obtained an assistant in the person of P. A. Cederstam, a theological student from Chicago who was licensed to preach the following March. Owing to the great lack of ministers, he was not long permitted to remain here, but was sent to Minnesota the following May. A year later Hasselquist received a new assistant in his brother-in-law, A. R. Cervin, a teacher from the old country, who aided him in the work for more than a year.

There was much ungodliness to contend with during this period, necessitating a very strict application of church discipline. The warnings and admonitions of these men being left unheeded, excommunication was resorted to. Drunkenness and licentiousness were the vices most prevalent. Dancing, improper conduct in church and negligence in attending divine services were also causes for disciplinary measures.

Surrounded on all sides by those who hated everything savoring of the cult and practices of the Swedish state church, Rev. Hasselquist was driven too far in his concessions to the customs and usages of the American Reformed churches. Thus, it was no uncommon thing for him to make his appearance in church of a Sunday morning dressed in a white linen duster in place of the black clerical coat, and walk down the aisle singing one of Ahnfelt's songs in which the congregation would join. He would then go directly to the pulpit, read a text, offer a prayer and then commence preaching. Suddenly he would interrupt himself by singing another familiar song, subsequently picking up the thread of his discourse where he had dropped it. The services would end as unceremoniously as they began. These concessions to arbitrary usage were not without effect on the congregation. A faction was formed that held it to be wrong for the minister to wear a coat of clerical cut, read the confession or follow the ritual. These persons also considered it wrong to remain standing during the reading of the gospel and epistle text before the altar, and consequently remained seated when the congregation arose. They demanded that the pastor should sit, and not stand, before the altar, and insisted that he discard the clerical neck-band. They made so much of this that when Hakan Olsson, one of Hasselquist's pupils, after ordination appeared with that mark of the ecclesiastical office, one of the deacons stepped up to him with the evident intention of tearing that innocent little article of apparel from his neck. This movement, which at first seemed insignificant, developed to such an extent that even before Hasselquist left Galesburg lists were circulated for the purpose of soliciting members for a free church. Such a one was established in 1869 under the name of the Second Lutheran Church of Galesburg. Such was the result of Hasselquist's thoughtless departure from a strict conformity to orthodox usage in the church of his native land.

When Rev. Esbjörn returned to Sweden, Rev. Hasselquist became his successor as president of the Augustana Theological Seminary, taking his new position in 1863. In the fall of the same year Rev. A. W. Dahlsten assumed charge of the Galesburg church, preaching there once a month until New Year's, 1864, when he removed to Galesburg. The influence of the saloons and the dance halls at this time was a great source of worry to the pastor and the church council. The

disturbing element from the time of Hasselquist was still active and had acquired added strength. Certain persons worked with might and main against the pastor and to have the existing order of services abolished, demanding that any clergyman, no matter of what denomination, should have the right to preach in their church. When this was refused, they sent a petition to the synod, setting forth these demands, adding the request that part of the liturgical service be abolished.

The synod positively refused to grant the petition, whereupon the petitioners set to work on a plan to secede from the synod. They failed again. At a special meeting of the church, a large majority of the congregation resolved to abide by the decision of the synod.



The First Swedish Lutheran Church of Galesburg, Erected in 1870

In 1868 the old church, which had been enlarged by an addition during Hasselquist's time, was found to be too small and a new edifice was planned. At first it was decided to build a second addition at one end of the old structure, but as this would involve a considerable expense without affording the space needed either for the present or for the future, this plan was given up. Next it was resolved to widen the church by moving the side walls, but this plan also fell through. Finally, the congregation resolved to erect an entire new edifice, to be 100x60 feet, but only $400 being subscribed, the whole enterprise was abandoned for the time being. The following year the matter was again taken up and on the 4th of April a resolution was passed to begin building as soon as $2,000 had been subscribed.

Rev. Dahlsten having resigned after serving the church for six years, the congregation, a few days after deciding to build a new church, extended a call to Rev. A. Andreen to succeed Dahlsten. Fif-

teen members left the church and, together with a few others, organized the proposed free church. During the ensuing vacancy, several others deserted. This had the effect of cleansing the church from that unwholesome and pernicious element which for some time past had created disturbances and stunted the growth of the congregation. Rev. Andreen declined the call, and the church again called Rev. Hasselquist only to receive a negative answer. Next a call was extended to Rev. N. Th. Winquist of DeKalb, who accepted and remained in charge for somewhat over three years. During his term, the new church was finished and the final report of the work was rendered March 4, 1870. The edifice was found to have cost $13,371.75, of which amount $6,784 had been raised by subscription, the balance representing debt. This church, which for many years was the largest in the city, is still used as a house of worship. Its dimensions are: length, 100 feet; width, 60 feet; height of side walls, 22 feet; height of steeple, 165 feet. The task of reducing the church debt was next taken up, and much was accomplished, partly by subscription, partly by the collection of pew rents. At this juncture, the members living at Henderson left and organized a congregation of their own. The schoolhouse was moved and provided with new seats, and new life was injected into the work of construction; a church bell was purchased; the parsonage was renovated, and about this time the new constitution for the churches, revised by the synod, was adopted.

Rev. Winquist left in 1873 and was succeeded in the fall of the same year by Rev. S. P. A. Lindahl. The peace and harmony that had prevailed during the time of Rev. Winquist was disturbed by one F. Lagerman, who filled the pulpit in the interval, sharply criticising in his sermons everything that fell below his exalted standard of Lutheranism. By coolheadedness and a conciliatory policy, the new pastor succeeded in restoring peace, the work progressing smoothly thereafter. In 1878 the church purchased an organ at a cost of $2,350 and built a new parsonage. A house and lot was bought, the old house was sold and a new one erected, the total outlay for the new property stopping at $3,000. During Rev. Lindahl's time in Galesburg, the church carried on a vigorous campaign against the secret societies, but in spite of this and other disturbing influences the church, on the whole, made steady progress.

In November, 1884, Rev. Lindahl resigned his charge. He was succeeded by Rev. C. A. Bäckman of Ishpeming, Mich., who moved to his new field July 1st, the following year. In the summer of 1885 a large and commodious schoolhouse was erected. A year later, the church was renovated at an outlay of $1,300, and in 1887 a hall was provided for the young people by raising the schoolhouse, the total

expense amounting to $1,300. Societies were organized and several new lines of endeavor were taken up.

Rev. Bäckman, however, was not permitted long to labor in this field, death cutting short his promising career on March 6, 1888, before he had completed his thirty-fifth year. The vacancy was temporarily supplied by a student who by his personal conduct created the most serious disruption in the stormy history of the congregation, resulting a couple of years later in the expulsion of no less than 236 communicant members. The effects of this schism were felt for years afterward.

This movement was headed by C. A. Nybladh, who subsequently became a minister of the Episcopal Church. From his following the Swedish Episcopal Church of Galesburg was organized.

The permanent successor of Rev. Bäckman was Rev. C. J. E. Haterius whose installation took place April 11, 1889. His first years at Galesburg were made disagreeable by the effects of the foregoing dissension. In 1891, an addition was built to the church affording space for the organ and the choir, besides a pastor's study. The cost of these improvements amounted to $1,276.

The question of starting English work within the church now began to be much ventilated, resulting in the calling of an English assistant April 18, 1896. Having received a negative answer, the congregation, at a second business meeting, called for the same purpose June 19th, was advised to permit those especially interested in the English work to take up such work under the auspices of the church council with a view to organizing an independent English Lutheran church. The young people's hall was set aside for the English services. This plan was not carried out, but the English question in this instance was solved by arranging for the holding of divine services in the English language at certain intervals during the year.

In the summer of 1898, Rev. Haterius resigned and was succeeded Nov. 1st by Rev. Peter Peterson of Essex, Ia. The next summer, the church edifice underwent a thorough renovation at a cost of $1,894, and besides a number of old debts were paid. From this time on the work has progressed without friction.

Rev. Peterson left the charge in 1905, removing to St. Paul. His successor is Rev. F. A. Johnsson, one of the abler young pastors of the Illinois Conference. At New Year's, 1907, the church had a membership of 1,672, including 1,198 communicants. The church property was valued at $36,450.

The Lutheran Congregation in Moline

As previous pages will show, Rev. Esbjörn at an early day took up mission work at Moline and Rock Island. When visiting Moline, he generally stopped at the home of Carl Johansson, a tailor, the second Swedish settler in the place. Johansson occupied a 14 by 16 room in a brick house belonging to one Mrs. Bell, and here the first Swedish Lutheran services were held. Johansson later became a very zealous Baptist and a bitter antagonist of the Lutherans.

At first the Swedish Lutherans of Moline were enrolled in the Andover church. This arrangement being found impracticable, a separate congregation was organized in Moline Dec. 1, 1850, with fifty charter members. This number soon increased. There being as yet no book of record for the church, the names of applicants were recorded on loose slips of paper.

The first question arising after the organization of the congregation was how to get a church edifice. A lot was purchased for the sum of $100, and the next summer they began to build, having received for this purpose $340 out of the $2,200 solicited by Esbjörn in the East. The balance was raised among the Americans and the Swedish settlers of Moline. This little church, a frame structure 36 by 24 and 15 feet high, was situated on the same spot where stands the present one, and was built at a cost of $646. The building was not finished for many years, yet served its purpose. On Sunday, Jan. 11, 1857, it was ultimately dedicated as a house of worship, the steeple having been finished just the day before and provided with a bell purchased at a cost of $50. This was the first church bell of any Swedish Lutheran church in America since the days of the Delaware Swedes. It is now the property of the Swedish Lutheran church of Port Byron, Ill. The year after the dedication, a fourteen foot addition to the church was built, and in 1866 a 12 by 14 addition was made. The structure was finally sold to the plow manufacturing firm of Deere and Company and moved across the street, where it is used as a storehouse for agricultural implements.

The first parsonage owned by the congregation consisted of a small house and lot, donated in 1854 by a bachelor, Abraham Andersson from Gnarp, Helsingland, on condition that it be used as the home of the Swedish Lutheran pastor. This property was located in the northeast corner of the block lying just north of the block in which the church is situated. This modest little parsonage was rebuilt in 1856. In 1858 the church property was valued as follows, church, $14,000; parsonage, $850.

Rev. Esbjörn was himself in charge of this field for the first five years, but was obliged to leave part of the work to others. In the

summer of 1852, he formed the acquaintance of a young man by the name of C. J. Valentin, from Stockholm, a former salesman, possessing very little schooling but much religious fervor and great zeal in behalf of the Lutheran Church. In October, 1852, at a time of great lack of ministerial timber, Valentin was examined before the Synod of Northern Illinois and given a license to preach and administer the sacraments in Moline and Rock Island. Valentin almost immediately clashed with the Baptists in Rock Island, the conflict growing so bitter during the early part of 1853 that Valentin had to leave the community.

From Moline Valentin went to Princeton, where he served the Swedish Lutherans for a short time. At the synodical convention in



The First Swedish Lutheran House of Worship in Moline

Galesburg in the fall he was absent but appears nevertheless to have had his license renewed. At the subsequent synod in Peru, his license was again renewed, on condition that he take up studies under the direction of Esbjörn. Instead of so doing, he returned to Sweden without leave of absence, remaining there for a few years. At the synod of 1855 he was suspended and deprived of his license until he should return to the synod, provided, however, that the license would be renewed, should he be found worthy of reinstatement into the ministerial office. Nothing was now heard of him for several years. During the Civil War, he reappeared in this country and enlisted as a volunteer in Company D, of the 57th Illinois Infantry. He proved, however, no better a soldier in the ranks of the Union army than in those of the church. As he had deserted his little flock in Princeton, so he now deserted his regiment, fleeing to Sweden, whence he sent a written statement declaring that his conscience would not permit

him to fight for the Union cause, his sympathies being on the side of the confederates. After the close of the war, he is believed to have again returned to this country.

After Valentin left Moline, the services were conducted by one of the deacons, named Carl Lindman, a native of Jersnäs parish, in Smaland. This man, who was a mason by trade, was exceptionally gifted mentally and spiritually, was well informed and ready of speech, and was uncompromising in matters of right and wrong. In his capacity of deacon he did a great deal of good for the church.

The congregation, nevertheless, was greatly in need of a pastor, surrounded as it was by Methodists and Baptists, who made every effort to gain proselytes among its members. In 1854, Rev. P. A. Ahlberg of Sweden was called and promised to come, but subsequently declined. Through the medium of Dr. Peter Fjellstedt a call was then extended in 1855 to O. C. T. Andrén, curate of Carlshamn, who accepted and came over on July 31, 1856, to take charge.

Rev. Andrén remained in Moline only four years, but in that short time accomplished much for the good of the church, the fruits of his efforts being apparent for a long time to follow. When he came there, the congregation was small and its members poor, giving him much to do and meager recompense for his work. Moline and Rock Island at that time, and for many years after, were included in one pastorate; besides, he was in charge of churches at Geneseo and other places. One year after his arrival, the church had 172 members. Rev. Andrén was more strict than his predecessors in the exercise of church discipline and was no respecter of persons. He fostered a greater interest in the common affairs of the church body. When the question was put to each of the congregations whether they would be willing to contribute $25 each toward the salary of a Scandinavian professor at the seminary in Springfield, provided such professorship were established, and the matter was presented by Rev. Andrén to his church, the request was at once granted, the amount to be raised by collection. This resolution was passed Sept. 18, 1857. On the 15th of April, 1860, the congregation resolved to withdraw from the Synod of Northern Illinois and declared in favor of organizing an independent Scandinavian synod. The revenues of the church at this time were quite modest. At the annual meeting in May, 1858, the income was reported at $114.14, while the outlay footed up to $124.75, not including the salary of the pastor. The next year the resources had grown to $284.49 and the expenditures to $277.70, but in 1860 the figures dropped to $109.29 and $129.45, respectively, while the church had a debt of $70.15.

Having been chosen by the newly organized Augustana Synod as its representative to solicit funds in Sweden and Norway for the sem-

inary to be established. Rev. Andrén with his family left Moline early in September, 1860, with the intention of returning after accomplishing his mission. This plan was later given up, and on Aug. 11, 1861, he sent in his resignation. Rev. Peters, who had been called to fill the temporary vacancy, was called as regular pastor on the 21st of the same month. Rev. Peters was also in charge of the missions in Rock Island, Geneseo and Fulton. He removed from Moline to Rockford Dec. 29, 1863, leaving the place vacant for two years, during which time the parsonage was rented out and the neighboring pastors, Jonas Swensson, John Johnson and A. W. Dahlsten, took turns in preaching and officiating at ecclesiastical acts. Elections were held time and again, but no call was accepted. Finally, J. S. Benson, a student of the theological seminary at Paxton, was called as preacher and school teacher in 1865. On petition by the church, Benson was ordained the following year and then became its regular pastor. He inspired his congregation to renewed efforts; the church was enlarged and in 1868 a schoolhouse was erected on the vacant portion of the church lot. The members living in Rock Island in 1870 were authorized to organize their own congregation which up to May 1, 1873, remained a part of the same pastorate. In the fall of 1872, Rev. Benson resigned his charge, remaining, however, until August of the following year. He passed away in Marathon, Ia., March 13, 1889.

After several fruitless attempts, the church finally, in the spring of 1874, obtained a new pastor, Rev. A. G. Setterdahl. With him came a period of renewed activity and extensive external improvements were made at considerable cost. All the old buildings were razed to give room for new ones. The old parsonage was sold for $210 and moved to the other side of the street and in its place a more commodious house was erected. On Dec. 8, 1875, the congregation resolved to build a new church, and now, more than ever before, harmony and unity of action was needed. But quite the contrary occurred. That very decision caused a dissension, and a number of dissatisfied ones withdrew to form a new congregation, named the Gustaf Adolf Church, and built their own house of worship in the western part of the village. This congregation later joined the Mission Friends. The old church building was sold and moved off the lot. The cornerstone for the new edifice was laid June 15, 1876. The new building, a brick structure, was 116 feet in length and 62 feet in width, and was provided with a tall, imposing steeple. The building, costing $19,551, was enclosed before Dec. 1st of that year. The following summer Rev. Setterdahl visited Sweden on a leave of absence, with Prof. O. Olsson in charge. The first high mass in the new edifice was preached by him Oct. 13, 1878. In 1879

Rev. Setterdahl resigned and removed to Sweden, where he has been rector of a parish in the province of Östergötland for many years.

In the fall of 1879, Rev. H. O. Lindeblad assumed charge. His was the onerous task of getting the church building completed and furnished. Being a man of business acumen, he proved equal to the occasion, successfully piloting the church through its financial straits. Weary of the burden, he resigned in the fall of 1887, but was prevailed upon to stay, and subsequently completed the work, making it possible



The Present Swedish Lutheran Church in Moline

to dedicate the edifice free of debt June 9, 1889. Besides the financial ones, Rev. Lindeblad had numerous other problems to solve. At the annual meeting of the church in 1887, the faculty of Augustana College in the adjacent city of Rock Island petitioned for permission to organize an English Lutheran congregation at the institution. The petition being denied, the church was nevertheless established and is known as the Grace Lutheran Church, with its house of worship situated in the east end of the city of Rock Island. In 1890 members of the Moline church who resided at or near the college and in the neighborhood lying between the institution and the church in Moline petitioned the annual meeting for permission to organize a new Swedish Lutheran congregation in that same territory. This plan also was realized, the new congregation, named the Zion Church, building a small church near the boundary line between the cities of Rock Island and Moline

In the spring of 1892, two lots were purchased, one in the east, another in the south part of Moline and chapels were erected where regular weekly services were conducted for the benefit of members residing in those localities.

Rev. Lindeblad again resigned in the spring of 1892 and left the charge Oct. 16th, following. Just one week later, he was succeeded by Rev. C. A. Hemborg. The enlarged field and consequent increase of work necessitated the engagement of theological students from the nearby seminary to assist the pastor. The new minister also had his share of extra work. Both the church and the parsonage were renovated and an addition was built to one of the chapels. A new parsonage was purchased July 1, 1895, at a cost of $5,000, and in 1899 the old one was sold for $4,000. During Rev. Hemborg's term of service the church records were collected and properly arranged in an archive by Mr. G. Lindahl. The church celebrated its fiftieth anniversary Dec. 1, 1900, with appropriate festivities and in connection therewith published an attractive and interesting historical memorial.

In 1904 Rev. Hemborg gave place to Dr. L. A. Johnston of St. Paul, Minn., who still remains in charge. At New Year's, 1907, this church had a total of 1,529 members, 1,110 being communicants. The value of the church property is estimated at $55,000.

Olof Christian Telemak Andrén

Rev. O. C. T. Andrén, although remaining only a few years in this country, by his successful achievements earned an honorable place among the Swedish Lutheran pioneers in the state of Illinois. Olof Christian Telemak Andrén was born in Malmö Sept. 21, 1824, the son of a merchant named Christian Andersson and his wife Johanna, nee Malmquist. After his father's death in 1828, his mother endeavored to make a living for herself and her two children by teaching school. By hard work and great privations she incurred consumption and died in 1830, two years after the death of her husband.

A near relative who had taken the widow and her children into his home sent Olof to the Latin school of Malmö three years later, providing meals for him in a number of families in rotation. He continued his studies under the same arrangement until 1841 when he entered the university of Lund. During these eight years, he had been the laughing-stock of the rich men's sons at the school on account of his poverty and wretched appearance. Mortified by their taunts, the poor orphan repeatedly laid plans for flight, which circumstances, however, prevented him from carrying out.

Leaving the school in his home city about midsummer, he went to Lund and there passed the collegiate examination the following spring.

Not having the means to continue his studies at the university, he gladly accepted a proffered position as private tutor in the province of Småland, where he remained for three years, meanwhile preaching his first sermon in the Hestra parish church. In the autumn of 1845, he returned to Lund entering upon his theological studies. Again he faced a financial struggle during which he often had to go without the common necessaries of life. But his strenuous industry and unflinching energy carried him through, enabling him in the short time of two years to complete his courses and passing his examinations both in theoretical and practical theology in 1847, the former in the spring,



Rev. Olof Christian Telemak Andrén

the latter on Dec. 17th of that year. On the 19th of the same month he was ordained at the early age of twenty-three, by the venerable Bishop Faxe.

During the first three or four years in the ministry, Andrén served as assistant pastor under four elderly clergymen. The last was Rector C. M. Westdahl of Carlshamn, where Andrén remained from February, 1851, to the summer of 1856, when he left for America. At Carlshamn his spiritual life and experience attained to greater fullness, the home of Rector Westdahl, pervaded as it was by taste, tact and refinement, ennobled by Christian culture, furnishing a splendid school for a young clergyman. Andrén also had an extensive field for his pastoral labors, the charge comprising, besides the city of Carlshamn, the large parish of Asarum.

Oct. 3, 1855, Andrén through Dr. Peter Fjellstedt received a call to become pastor of the Swedish Lutheran Church in Moline. After much reflection and hesitation, he finally accepted and left for America the following summer with leave of absence for six years. On May 26, 1856, just before emigrating, he was married to Miss Mathilda Pihl, daughter of Henrik Pihl, adjunct pastor of Ousby parish. The couple traveled by way of Lübeck and Hamburg, landing in New York July 18th and reaching Moline the 31st. An account of his four years' service there having been given in previous pages, it may be added that Andrén also gathered the Swedes of Geneseo into a small congregation of 32 members who built a church at a cost of $1,300.

On Aug. 21, 1860, Rev. Andrén left his charge in Moline never to return. He went back to the old country, arriving in the middle of September. There he immediately set to work soliciting funds for the theological seminary just founded by the Swedish Lutherans of America. He made stirring appeals in Lund, Stockholm, Upsala and other cities, setting forth the need of an educational institution in so convincing a manner that the response came in the form of a fund of no less than 36,000 riksdaler. In order to present the matter to the king in person, he was granted an audience before Charles XV, who listened with favor to his request and tendered as a personal gift to the new institution 5,000 volumes out of his own private library, leaving the choice of books to Rev. Andrén himself. This liberal contribution of money and books from Sweden was of the greatest value to the young Swedish-American institution.

Andrén worked constantly in behalf of Augustana Theological Seminary till the fall of 1861 when he was appointed pastor of Billinge and Röstånga parishes in Skåne to fill a vacancy. While there, Rev. Andrén became involved in a long and disagreeable feud with the organist, Nils Lilja, doctor of philosophy and an author of note, who was finally discharged on the ground of immorality. Lilja appealed from the parish to the Lund chapter which rescinded the action of the congregation and reinstated Dr. Lilja in his former position where he remained until his death.

After having taken the pastoral examination at Lund Jan. 31, 1863, Andrén was elected minister of Asarum, now separated from Carlshamn and made a distinct pastorate, taking charge in the fall of 1866 and laboring with signal success for nearly four years. While visiting typhus patients in several families in May, 1870, Rev. Andrén was smitten with the disease and died on the 11th of the following month. His demise was deeply felt both in Sweden and in this country, Rev. Andrén having everywhere left the impression of a faithful, pious and self-sacrificing pastor.

The Immanuel Church of Chicago

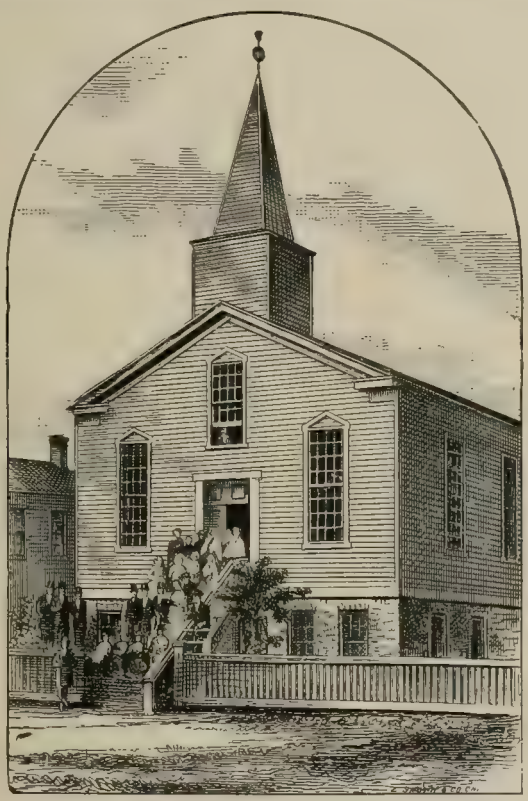
The Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Immanuel Church of Chicago had a peculiar origin. A small party of emigrants from Vestergötland arrived in Chicago in the summer of 1852, and from here they left by boat for Sheboygan, Wis., where they were left helpless, finding no one who was able to understand them and willing to help them. Men, women and children were in hopeless distress. They spent a couple of days among their bags and baggage on the boat landing, and when the boat returned from Chicago, they piled on board again bound for the city whence they had just come. Here they succeeded in obtaining lodging with certain Norwegian families belonging to the Lutheran church organized as early as 1848, and served by Rev. Paul Andersen. Cholera was raging at this time, reaping its greatest harvest among the newly arrived immigrants. One night when several members of the party were attacked by the pest, one of the victims expressed a desire to see a Lutheran minister. Rev. Paul Andersen was sent for at once and did what he could to cheer and comfort the sick and dying, as well as to speak words of encouragement to those in good health and giving them advice and aid.

A firm and fast friendship was thus established between these strangers and the benevolent divine, resulting in most of them, including a few earnest Christians, joining the Norwegian church. Rev. Andersen, however, at once began to lay plans for the organizing of a Swedish Lutheran church, whose first members were to be the Swedish members of the Norwegian church.

When T. N. Hasselquist came to this country in October, 1852, he passed through Chicago and was the guest of Rev. Andersen for a few days. When he left, his host exacted a promise that Hasselquist should return at his first opportunity to preach to his fellow countrymen here and to organize a church among them. After having attended a conference meeting at Moline early in January, 1853, Hasselquist started on his way to Chicago, crowded into a stage coach packed with travelers. He now preached several times to the Swedes in Rev. Andersen's church, and on Sunday, Jan. 16th, he organized the Swedish Lutheran Immanuel Church.

Eighty persons applied for membership at the time. The plan was to call as pastor Rev. J. P. Dahlstedt, of Hofmantorp, Vexiö chapter, in Sweden, but the call was sent through Dr. P. Fjellstedt of Lund, authorizing him to call another man in the event that Rev. Dahlstedt, whose health was poor, should not see fit to accept. Dr. Fjellstedt was obliged to extend the call to Rev. Erland Carlsson, who had served for four years in the chapter of Vexiö. After obtaining his passports from the government, he started on his way to America on the 3rd day of

June, 1853, from Kalmar, via Lübeck, Hamburg, Hull and Liverpool, in a company of 176 emigrants. The ship anchored in New York harbor on Saturday, Aug. 13th, and the party reached Chicago on the 22nd of the same month. Rev. Carlsson was met at the railway station and was given a cordial welcome by members of the church he was to serve. On the following Sunday, being the 14th after Trinity Sunday, he preached his first sermon to his countrymen in Chicago.



The Immanuel Church Edifice on Superior Street

While the joy over the new pastor was intense, yet the outlook was far from bright. Of the eighty people who had joined the congregation at the outset, there were only thirty-six left, including eight families and twenty single persons. The others had either moved away from the city or joined other churches. Those remaining were all newcomers in poor circumstances. There was not a family among them capable of housing the new pastor, who for that reason was subjected to additional discomfort. In October, 1853, the church joined the Synod of Northern Illinois to which Paul Andersen, L. P. Esbjörn and T. N. Hasselquist, with their churches, already belonged.

The congregation held its first annual business meeting Jan. 27, 1854. At the time of the organization, no minutes had been kept, no church council elected and no constitution adopted. There was no record whatever, beyond the mere list of names of the persons who pledged themselves as members. At this meeting, therefore, it was decided to enter, first of all, in the newly procured record-book, a brief account of the origin of the church. Also a constitution was adopted, which afterward was used as a model for the constitution drawn up for adoption by the congregations of the Augustana Synod. It may be said that the church was legally organized now for the first time, by the election of the following officers: deacons, C. J. Anderson, John Nilson and Isak Peterson; trustees, Johan Björkholm, Göran Svenson and Gisel Trulson.

The same week that Rev. Carlsson arrived, and before he had preached his first sermon, several leading members of the church visited him to consult with regard to the order of services. The question was very guardedly put whether he intended to don the ecclesiastical garb of the Swedish state church, and when he stated that to be his purpose his visitors expressed great satisfaction, explaining that because neither Esbjörn nor Hasselquist had done so when they appeared in Chicago, many had openly declared that they were certainly no Lutheran clergymen, and that if they ever were they had doubtless deserted Lutheranism and its established order.

But these men had had their reasons for departing from established usage. In Andover and Galesburg, at this time, certain groups of church members claiming to correspond to the so-called "readers" of the old country, made much ado about ritualism, attacking Esbjörn and Hasselquist as being spiritually dead, on the ground that they recited prayers out of the churchbook, and characterizing them as superstitious and papistical, believing, as was alleged, that the word and the sacraments would not be efficacious without the use of ecclesiastical garb. For these reasons the pastors in question deemed it a duty to use their liberty as Lutherans in discarding both the ministerial garb and the churchbook. Rev. Carlsson, on the contrary, used both when officiating at high mass, as well as at all ministerial acts. A couple of years later, however, a compromise was agreed on, Rev. Carlsson discarding the gown while the other two pastors returned to the use of the church book and the ecclesiastical neck-piece. Such has since been the custom in the Augustana Synod until in recent years the gown has been re adopted to a great extent in the East, as also by many clergymen in the West.

The Immanuel Church had great financial and other difficulties to contend with from its inception. The year 1854 was especially fraught

with trials and terrors for this church and for the Swedish immigrants in general. The cholera epidemic was then at its height in this country, and the newcomers more than any other class were subject to its ravages. About one-tenth of the communicant members of the church died of the pest and among the children the death rate was very much higher. Next, the congregation was seriously affected by the financial panic of 1857, many of its members being compelled to leave the city in order to look for employment elsewhere. But common afflictions brought the people closer together, and the pastor gladly shared the poverty and sufferings of his flock. During the first three years he had no fixed salary, being dependent on free-will offerings, amounting in 1854 to $116, in 1855 to $180, and in 1856 to $240, as shown by the records of an annual meeting held on the "Thirteenth day of Christmas," 1857, when the salary was fixed at $350 for the coming year. That year the church numbered 204 communicant members.

In 1860, with an adult membership of 220, the church entered upon a new era of its existence. The same year the Augustana Synod was organized, and the Augustana Theological Seminary was established in Chicago and located within the confines of this church. These important steps in advance naturally stimulated the people to increased activity. The times improved. The outbreak of the Civil War caused a great advance in the prices of all commodities. In all lines of employment work became more plentiful, and as a natural result immigration increased. All these things tended to promote the growth and prosperity of the church, which in 1865 had no less than 525 communicant members.

The church edifice which had been purchased of the Norwegian Lutherans in 1854 for the sum of $1,500, had grown too small, although enlarged in the latter year. Mission work was therefore begun on the south side, where services were held every Sunday morning and one evening a week, in a schoolhouse at 21st st. and Arnold avenue. In connection herewith, Rev. Peter Erikson was called as assistant pastor. In 1868 the Salem Church was organized on the south side. At the time the Immanuel Church lost to it a considerable number of its members, yet numbered 1,020 communicants. A new church edifice was needed and in 1869 steps were taken to build one. An imposing structure was built at Sedgwick and Hobbie streets, at a total cost of $34,400. It was dedicated Nov. 7th, that year, but was not completed until 1870. That winter a great revival took place, giving joy to the heart of the pastor and to all faithful Christians within the church. But new trials and difficulties were in store. The great fire destroyed both church buildings, and the majority of the members were made homeless, some being reduced to penury. Many of them left the city and for a time it looked

as though the congregation was to be entirely wiped out. But the very first Sunday after the fire, quite a number gathered for worship in a Norwegian church on the west side, and a few days later the church authorities resolved that the church should continue to exist under its legal name, constitution and charter and that, with the help of God, every cent of its debt would be paid. This was a heroic step.



The Immanuel Church Second Edifice

considering that the debts amounted to $22,600 after deducting the insurance received on the old church building. On the new structure no insurance could be collected.

Not long afterward, the work of clearing away the ruins of the newly built temple was begun. A large number of members volunteered to aid in this work, women and children vying with men and boys. On New Year's Day, 1872, the congregation at its annual meeting appointed a building committee with authority to erect a church similar to the one destroyed in the fire. Work on the new building was not to be begun until at least $10,000 had been raised. When Rev. Carlsson returned home after having visited a number of Swedish

churches in the West and both Swedish and other Lutherans in the East for the purpose of soliciting funds, he brought back a little more than the stipulated amount, making it possible to go ahead with the work at once. On Christmas morning following, the congregation was enabled to worship in the basement of the new church, fitted up as a temporary meeting hall. The edifice was not completed until the spring of 1875. It was dedicated on April 4th, and on the same day Rev. C. A. Evald, its new pastor, was inducted into office to succeed Rev. Carlsson, who had resigned by reason of ill health, after serving the church for a period of 22 years. The new church, with steeple, bells and organ still lacking, represented a cost of $31,845. At the annual meeting that year the church debt amounted to $21,558. This was a pressing burden for a long term of years, retarding progress and weighing down the spirits of the members. Subscriptions were taken from time to time in an effort to reduce the obligation. At the annual meeting, Jan. 1, 1885, the trustees were pleased to report that the last remnant of the debt, amounting to $6,700, together with the interest thereon, being $534.33, had been paid off. To commemorate the joyous event, a thanksgiving festival was arranged which took place on the 18th of January. Since that time extra funds have been raised for the church from time to time for various purposes, such as renovating, erecting a steeple and providing it with a clock and church bells, and purchasing a new pipe organ. The steeple was built in 1886 at a cost of $2,579; at the same time a tower clock was procured for $600 and three church bells weighing 5,900 lbs. and costing $1,174.35. A new pipe organ was installed in 1892 at a cost of nearly $6,000.

In 1897 the house at 218 Sedgwick street was purchased for a parsonage at a cost of $8,500. The basement of the building was turned into a library and reading room for the use of the young people's society. From March, 1890, the church has published a monthly paper, named "Församlings-Vännen," edited by the pastor.

This has been a mission church in more than one sense. In the course of years, its leaders have begun Sunday schools and other forms of mission work in various parts of the city, thereby laying the foundation for new Swedish Lutheran churches. The Salem Church on the south side is the first example. The second in order was the Gethsemane Church on the west side, organized two years later, or 1870. Several other churches in the city sustain the same filial relation to the Immanuel Church. Members who have removed to other places during these fifty years, and they have not been few, have been taking an active interest in the organizing of churches wherever they have come, and by reason of their training have become valuable members of these churches.

From its organization to the present time, the church has had only two regular pastors, Erland Carlsson from 1853 to 1875 and C. A. Evald from that year to the present time, but the assistant pastors have been not a few and besides a large number of students have assisted in the pulpit and in the Sunday and parochial schools.

From its earliest years the Immanuel Church has made great sacrifices for the Christian education and training of the young. Short-



The Immanuel Church—Interior of Third Edifice

ly after Rev. Carlsson's arrival, a Christian school was started. The first teacher was Erie Norelius, then a student of the university at Columbus, Ohio, later pastor of the Augustana Synod and at present its president. The need of a schoolhouse soon was felt, and in 1853 funds were gathered for the building, which was finished shortly. It was a two story structure, 24 by 32 feet, only the lower part being used for school purposes, while the upper story was rented out to raise revenue for the payment of the debt on the building.

This insignificant little schoolhouse attained historical importance not only for this church but for the Augustana Synod as well. It was the first business office of the Swedish Lutheran Publication Society. The printing office of "Hemlandet," a paper then published by that association, was for a time located in the schoolroom itself, the bookstore being located in a room above. Moreover, this same building was the first home of Augustana College and Theological Seminary, the principal institution of learning among the Swedish-Americans. When Prof. Esbjörn in the latter part of March, 1860, with seventeen Scandinavian Lutheran students, left the seminary at Springfield and came to Chicago, this schoolhouse was placed at their disposal. The lower story was used as a lecture hall, while the upper one was pressed into service as a dormitory for the students. The building was used thus for nearly three years, or until the fall of 1863 when the institution was removed to Paxton.

At first the parochial school, conducted by some student, was kept up only in summer, and the subjects taught were confined to religion and the Swedish language, but during various periods since 1870 other branches have been taught, including the English language, history and geography, natural history and music, necessitating the engagement of three or four teachers simultaneously. Of late years, however, the original plan is followed. Either students from synodical institutions or other teachers have been permanently engaged and thousands of Swedish-American children have here received their first instruction in the language and religion of their fathers.

The Sunday school of the Immanuel Church is, no doubt, the largest and the best organized in the Augustana Synod. The latter attributive properly applies also to the congregation as such. A large number of societies are at work, each for its specific purpose, but without losing sight of their common interests and those of the church at large. In his great work, and more particularly in this phase of it, Dr. Evald has a most energetic and valuable assistant in his wife, Mrs. Emmy Evald, a daughter of Rev. Carlsson, the first pastor of the church.

From the 16th to the 18th of January, 1903, the fiftieth anniversary of the Immanuel Church was celebrated with great festivity. At the time a comprehensive and attractive historical memorial was published, containing, together with a wealth of other facts and data, the following totals for the years 1854-1901, to-wit: income and outlay, $426,977.-21; communicant members, 51,959 and total number of members, 64,680.

At the beginning of the year 1907 the church numbered 1,212 communicants and 1,971 members all told. The Sunday school had

an attendance of 1,469 pupils. The property value, including church and parsonage, was estimated at $60,000.

Rev. Erland Carlsson

One of the most noted clergymen who came over from Sweden to take up work in Illinois was Rev. Erland Carlsson. He was born Aug. 24, 1822, in the village of Suletorp, in Elghult parish, Smaland. His parents, who were godfearing country folk, desired to give him a good Christian training. When the boy was but ten years of age, his father died, throwing the whole responsibility on the shoulders of the mother, who did as much as any pious mother could do for her son. The thought of becoming a minister arose early in the mind of the boy, but poverty placed what seemed insurmountable obstacles in the way. After a conversation with Sellergren, a noted evangelist, young Carlsson's mind took a more serious turn and he resolved to realize his youthful ambition, whatever the cost. At seventeen he began his theological studies under the direction of clergymen of the district, who kindly lent their aid to the earnest young seeker after knowledge. The services rendered by these men were never forgotten by him. A connection seems to be traceable between these kind offices and the readiness which Carlsson in after years spoke words of encouragement and extended a helping hand to young men who sought his advice and aid.

In 1843, Carlsson went to the university of Lund, completing his collegiate courses the following spring. Shortly thereafter, Bishop Esaias Tegnér of Vexiö licensed him to preach, a privilege which he availed himself of during the following summer. In the fall of 1844, he returned to Lund to study for the ministry. He was obliged to work under the most trying circumstances, his health failing and his funds giving out. But these difficulties seemed to spur him on to greater exertion, and his courage never failed him. In 1848, he passed his theological examination with high honors, but was not ordained until June 10, 1849, after having served in the interval as pastor at the watering place of Ramlösa and at the Lessebo paper mills.

Of Carlsson's career in the Swedish state church we know that he had the reputation of being a gifted and earnest preacher, the fruits of whose labors soon became evident. His sermons were full of power and spirituality and this, together with his simple and popular manner of expounding the Scriptures at religious gatherings and his private conversations with troubled souls, had the effect of attracting large audiences to the little factory church. While he was still pastor at Lessebo, there were signs of spiritual revival in that and adjoining congregations. While this was a source of joy to the young pastor it aroused apprehension in the minds of the bishop and the consistory.

The so-called Conventicle Placard designed to arrest the free church movement in Sweden was still in force. All efforts at taking religion seriously the authorities characterized as "pietism" and fanaticism. So when Carlsson sounded the alarm to those reposing in the sleep of the self-righteous, he aroused the enmity of those who saw danger in "too much religion."

But the young pastor, holding that the prime object of all preaching was the salvation of men's souls, was not to be frightened by protests. He continued to preach the full gospel and the fire of revival continued to spread. When he also began to lecture on temperance, the authorities decided that the Lessebo pastor must be made harmless at any cost. They were not particular about the means to this end. Although the pastorate at the mills was a fixed position, the consistory sent him from one place to another. Carlsson, with true Christian meekness, bowed to its wishes, and submitted to an injustice calculated to injure him, but which, on the contrary, endeared him all the more to the people. The unjust acts of the consistory also had a great deal to do with his decision to emigrate in order to preach the gospel to his countrymen in the New World, unhampered by governmental restrictions.

When Carlsson, through the medium of Dr. Fjellstedt, received the call to become the pastor of the Immanuel Church in Chicago, he was favorably impressed with the opportunity therein implied, yet he was not blind to the difficulties and acts of self-sacrifice which it would impose. This was a work in full harmony with his innermost desire, and he felt it his duty to go, still he was not over-hasty in reaching a decision. He received the call to America early in 1853, and on the third of June the same year, after having obtained leave of absence for six years, he left Sweden.

The Immanuel Church in Carlsson obtained just such a pastor as it needed, and his labors soon showed results. The Swedes of Chicago felt that Rev. Carlsson had their interest at heart and worked unselfishly in their behalf. For this reason they gathered about him like sheep about the shepherd or children around their father. He not only became their pastor but also their confidential adviser on all vital matters. His sound judgment and practical mind was at first placed at the service of the poor and often totally helpless newcomers, later to become a useful factor in the working out of the plans and destinies of the entire Swedish Lutheran Church in the United States. From the very first, he became one of the leaders and most respected men in the Swedish colony in Chicago.

The call extended to Rev. Carlsson also provided that he should have charge of the congregation organized in Geneva in 1853. For a

number of years, he served that church too, but this was not the extent of his field of usefulness. Immigration in the early fifties was very large, and Swedish settlements sprang up in a number of localities round about Chicago. Swedes settled in small groups in eastern Illinois, western Indiana and southern Michigan, and to each of these settlements extended Rev. Carlsson's solicitations for their spiritual welfare. He paved the way for many Swedish Lutheran churches in these states and saw a number of them safely through the storm and stress of the first few years. His sound judgment, practical wisdom and unflinching energy often were of invaluable service to the newcomers in their perplexity and helplessness. By his sympathetic personality he won well-nigh unbounded respect and confidence.

The terrible experience of the Swedish immigrants during the cholera epidemic of 1854 form the dark background which gives vivid relief to the portrayal of Carlsson as pastor, man and Christian. The situation was appalling; sickness and death visited almost every home and so numerous were the victims of the pest that it was only with the greatest difficulty that the bodies could be promptly interred. From morning till night, Carlsson would spend his time with the sick, lending aid and comfort, while his own vitality was almost spent, and even when he was himself physically ill. He constantly exposed himself to the contagion, evidently without any thought of his own safety. There were those who did not like him, but none could say that he was afraid or that he spared himself. Where there was greatest need of help, there you would find the Swedish Lutheran pastor, giving aid and succor, without distinction between friend and foe, members or enemies of his church; they were all fellow mortals in distress, that was enough for him.

In 1855 Carlsson was married to Miss Eva Charlotta Anderson, daughter of a well-known settler. From now on, he had at his side a faithful helpmeet who, in the estimation of many, was the ideal of a Lutheran pastor's wife. With her arrival as the presiding spirit of the parsonage of the Immanuel Church, that became the headquarters of a mission of great importance to the church and to the Swedish colony of Chicago at large. The home of Rev. Carlsson was, as some one has expressed it, "a miniature Castle Garden." Here helpless newcomers were sheltered and fed, however scarce the room and however low the supplies of the larder. On Sunday he would preach to his countrymen; on Monday, he had to scurry about town trying to find work for them; on Tuesday, he would be called upon to help some one disentangle an intricate business affair; on Wednesday, there would be a party of immigrants arriving, whom he had to meet and assist; on Thursday, he might be in court, acting as the interpreter of some newcomer in

trouble; on Friday, people might call on him to act as private secretary, with the duty of reading and writing their letters, and on Saturday there would generally be any amount of similar private commissions for him to perform. This strenuous work was appreciated by many, while others gave him no thanks for his endeavors. The discomforts and privations the Carlssons brought upon themselves in their efforts to assist others were often made light of, and Rev. Carlsson was not



Rev. Erland Carlsson

spared the grief of seeing many whom he had rendered valuable services afterward turning against him in bitter enmity.

To recount the labors of Rev. Carlsson in Chicago at this period would be to repeat the history of the Immanuel Church, for he was the moving spirit in every enterprise in the church and to his splendid leadership and capacity for organization is due in great measure the credit for everything then accomplished by that church.

Having lent his best efforts to the work of restoration after the

destruction and disintegration caused by the Chicago fire, Rev. Carlsson did not long remain in charge of the Immanuel Church. In 1875 he received and accepted a call to Andover, to take the place of Rev. Jonas Swensson, deceased, as pastor of that church. Carlsson left the Immanuel Church, not from choice, but because he hoped that the quiet country would afford him that rest for mind and body which was not to be had in the turbulent metropolis. In leaving Chicago, however, he did not cease to follow the work there with great interest. When Carlsson came to Chicago, the Immanuel Church consisted of a handful of poor immigrants, but when he left, after laboring there for twenty-two years, it was the largest congregation in the synod.

From 1875 to 1887, Carlsson served as pastor of the Andover church. He obtained the desired rest in this respect that he was no longer required to have charge of missions and organize new congregations, but could devote his entire time to the upbuilding of his own congregation. The pastoral duties, so dear to his heart, he was now left to perform without having other work constantly interposed, but a pastorate of the size of Andover does not afford rest in the ordinary sense of the term. Besides, he took an active interest in the general affairs of the church at all times. He was president of the Illinois Conference up to 1882, and in 1881 he was elected president of the Augustana Synod, serving until 1887. Membership in a number of committees imposed on him many extra duties. Under the burden of all this work, Carlsson's health began to fail. In 1884 he had an attack of apoplexy which made it difficult for him to attend to his ministerial duties. Nevertheless, he continued his pastoral work until June, 1887, when he removed to Rock Island, having accepted the position of business manager of Augustana College and Theological Seminary.

This office, far from lightening his burden, added new cares and responsibilities. Industrious, energetic and practical as he was, he still found himself unequal to the task. His health steadily failed and soon it was apparent to him that he could not long hold out in the service of the institution he so dearly loved and in the upbuilding of which he had always taken an active part.

At the advice of his physician to seek a milder climate, Carlsson removed to Kansas, purchasing a large farm near Lindsborg and building for himself a comfortable home which he named Rostad, after a cherished place in his fatherland. Here, together with his loving wife, he spent the last few years of his life, surrounded by relatives and friends.

To know Rev. Carlsson was to love and esteem him. For the young people in particular he had a peculiar attraction. Socially, he was free and natural, and a fine conversationalist. That his independence was

distasteful to some is not to be wondered at. He was deferent to others, but not in matters of principle; from what he held to be right, he was never known to deviate a hair's-breadth. His whole-souled Christianity impressed everyone who came in contact with him. But to ascribe to him a perfection which was not his would not be honoring his memory. He had his faults, which he could not conceal and which we cannot here overlook. Among these was a hot and excitable temper which would often get the better of his judgment in the course of public deliberations. He was himself fully conscious of his shortcoming, which caused him the keenest regret, and he was not too proud to apologize to any one whom he felt guilty of having done an injustice or injury.

His sympathetic personality and vivid presentation made him a truly popular preacher. He did not overlook the essential requirement of thorough preparation. His sermons were logical and to the point. He laid much stress on the form of the sermon but not at the expense of the contents. He always appeared with a dignity becoming a minister of the church of God.

In 1892 the directors of Augustana College and Theological Seminary conferred upon Carlsson the degree of Doctor of Divinity, in well-deserved recognition of his theological learning as well as of his long and tireless work toward the upbuilding of that institution of learning and of the Augustana Synod as a whole.

Carlsson was an energetic promoter of every branch of benevolent work. While in Andover he was the chairman of the board of the orphanage at that place. He was one of the incorporators of the Augustana Hospital of Chicago and was intensely interested in the development of that institution.

To the very last he labored in the interest of the home mission work. On a visit to Sister Bay, Wis., where he had a relative living, his real purpose was to seek health and rest in its invigorating northern climate, but he could not refrain from preaching the gospel to the Swedish settlers there, and thus it happened that his last sermon was preached in that locality. A slight apoplectic attack soon compelled his return to Chicago, to the home of his daughter and son-in-law, Mrs. and Dr. C. A. Evald. A second attack followed shortly after his return, and on the 19th of October, 1893, Erland Carlsson peacefully passed away, with his wife, children and grand-children at his bedside.

On the 25th of the same month, after impressive funeral services in the Immanuel Church, where Carlsson had preached for more than a score of years, his remains were laid to rest in Graceland cemetery, where a fine monument, erected by the Immanuel congregation, marks the resting-place of this eminent pioneer.

The Swedish Lutherans of Geneva

This church was organized in the first week of January, 1853, by Rev. Hasselquist and the Norwegian clergyman, Rev. Paul Andersen, of Chicago. Its membership, starting with forty, rapidly increased with the arrival of new immigrants. The organization did not take place in Geneva, but in the neighboring settlement of St. Charles, where the Swedes were more numerous. In the fall Rev. Erland Carlsson arrived from the old country, taking charge of this congregation, together with that in Chicago, and making regular visits to St. Charles the first Sunday of each month.

The first house of worship was the little church mentioned in the sketch of the St. Charles congregation, which was erected in 1852, at the initiative of the adventurous Nils Jansson. For two reasons the Geneva people, however, soon determined to provide their own church edifice. One was that the church at St. Charles was too small to accommodate the people, so that in the summer of 1854 a large part of the audience had to remain outside of the church during Sunday morning services. The second reason was a more peculiar one. There was a debt of $150 on the church building, for which the trustees had given a note with the proviso that receipts for all work and building material were to be submitted, together with a deed to the lot, before the money would be paid. This was never done. The trustees refused to pay the debt until the conditions should be fulfilled. On the other hand the creditor was unable to carry out his part of the agreement for the simple reason that the lot on which the church was built had been sold to a railway company.

In the meantime the Swedes in Geneva had materially increased in number. This fact, together with the tangle regarding the St Charles church property, gave added impetus to the movement toward the erection of a church in the first named place. In the center of the village stood a large stone building begun five years before, intended for a hotel, but never completed. It occurred to the church members that this might easily be altered so as to serve the purpose of a church edifice. After having looked over the structure and ascertained that it was for sale together with the surrounding premises, comprising one entire block, the Swedish Lutherans of Geneva and St. Charles, at a meeting held in St. Charles Nov. 22, 1854, resolved to purchase the property at a price not exceeding $2,000 and reconstruct the building for their purpose. The church members, no matter in which place they lived, all pledged themselves to do their utmost to raise the money, promising, as a rule, to contribute one month's wages. A subscription was started at once and during the evening a total of $400 was pledged. Later it reached the final amount of $1,200. Two days after the meet

ing, the bargain was made and work was at once begun. In the latter part of December, the building was under cover and so far completed that services could be held there. The edifice was 36 by 47 feet and 18 feet in height. There were thirty benches on the main floor, which with the gallery seated 300 people. On Sunday, the 11th of May, 1856, the church was dedicated, having been finished at a total outlay of $1,420. This amount, together with the purchase price and interest, ran the total expenditure on the property up to $3,540. At the time of the dedication an even $1,000 remained unpaid.

After the St. Charles church had been lost in a litigation the members worshiped with their brethren in Geneva, belonging to that congregation until 1882 when they organized a church of their own.

As early as 1857, Rev. Erland Carlsson found his field too extensive and accordingly engaged assistants for the work in Geneva. Several pastors, including A. Andreen, E. Norelius and G. Peters, took turns with him in preaching there. When no pastor was to be had, the services were conducted by Deacons Karl Samuelsson or P. Carlsson. Rev. Carlsson, however, had pastoral charge of the congregation until August, 1863. During the first decade of its existence, the church prospered greatly both spiritually and materially. It had its finances so well in hand that at the tenth anniversary the debt amounted to only $40.

The second pastor of this church was Rev. P. A. Cederstam, who took charge Aug. 3, 1863, meanwhile serving the DeKalb church by preaching there every third Sunday. Rev. Cederstam aroused the congregation to great activity during the short period of three years that he was permitted to serve. Broken down in health, he resigned July 16, 1866, when Rev. Erland Carlsson again took charge of the pastorate.

In the early part of the year 1869, Rev. C. O. Lindell succeeded to this charge. During Cederstam's time, mission work had been begun in Aurora, and at the next annual meeting the members living there asked permission to withdraw and organize a distinct church. Their request was granted, but for some time both congregations were served by the pastor in Geneva. Rev. Lindell resigned his post in January, 1875.

The following March a call was extended to Rev. C. H. Södergren, who accepted and labored in Geneva for nine years, or until 1884. In 1879 the congregation celebrated its 25th anniversary, when the speakers were the founder and the subsequent pastors of the church. It was during Rev. Södergren's time that the members in St. Charles withdrew and, in January, 1882, organized themselves as a separate congregation. Thereby the membership of Södergren's church was materially decreased, carrying with it a reduction of his salary from

$800 to $500. In spite of its reduced circumstances, the congregation incurred a heavy expense for new church furniture and repairs.

After Rev. Södergren's removal to Bertrand, Neb., in 1884, the pastorate was left vacant for one year. Nov. 9, 1886, the St. Charles and Geneva churches agreed to call Rev. C. E. Cesander as their common



The Swedish Lutheran Church of Geneva

pastor, whose time was to be equally divided between them. The year after, a new organ was purchased, and in 1893 it was resolved to build a new church, $2,000 being subscribed for the purpose. The enterprise was postponed, however, owing partly to several disasters in Geneva but principally to the financial panic of 1893 and successive years.

He was succeeded by Rev. J. A. Axelson in September, 1895. During the intervening vacancy, a comfortable parsonage was erected on the church lot at a cost of $1,894. Rev. Södergren and Cesander had lived in a parsonage situated halfway between the two cities and owned by the pastors themselves. After serving the church for four years, Rev. Axelson resigned and soon afterward returned to Sweden.

In August, 1899, the congregation called Rev. Carl Christenson of Lincoln, Neb., who took up his duties at the beginning of the next year. In March of that year the congregation resolved to build a new church, to cost $9,000, the work to begin as soon as $6,000 had been subscribed. In June, the bid of C. A. Anderson, of St. Charles, to erect the structure for the sum of $10,837, was accepted, and on Sept. 9th, the cornerstone was laid. Services were held in the new edifice for the first time on the first Sunday of the year 1901, but the formal dedication did not take place until March 24th. This temple is built in the Gothic style, the material being stone for the basement and pressed brick for the superstructure. Its dimensions are: length, 94 feet; width, 40 and 49 feet; height of steeple, 117 feet. The interior finish is in oak throughout. It has an organ worth $1,400, placed to one side of the chancel. The total cost of the church, completely furnished, exclusive of the organ, was $13,866.

The fiftieth anniversary of the church was celebrated on the fifth, sixth and seventh of June, 1903, a historical memorial being published in connection therewith. Rev. Christenson left in 1905, and his successor is Rev. F. A. Linder, president of the Illinois Conference for several years past. At New Year's, 1907, the congregation numbered 332 communicants and 559 members all told. Its property was valued at $20,000.

The Knoxville Church

This congregation also was organized by Rev. Hasselquist, in the year 1853. The founder was its pastor up to 1863, simultaneously with his pastorate in Galesburg, the church afterward receiving it own minister.

A small frame church was built in 1854 and dedicated Dec. 2nd, the following year, while still unfinished. The Americans in Knoxville had lent some aid toward its erection, but the bulk of the expense fell on the impecunious members themselves, who scraped together the needed funds in various ways, ending by a voluntary assessment of one dollar for each hundred dollars worth of property, the valuation to be made by the owner. The little church, which they considered light and lofty, cost about $1,700, of which sum $800 had been paid.

The church in 1860 numbered 173 communicants and its current annual expenses amounted to $250. In after years the congregation has had but a modest growth, the Swedes in this locality not being very numerous. At the beginning of 1907, the membership had reached 285, of whom 183 were communicants. Its church property, including church building, parsonage and the lots appertaining, was valued at $5,000.

There lived in Knoxville from 1852 to 1855 a blacksmith by the

name of Hakan Olson who, in view of the lack of clergymen, was induced by Rev. Hasselquist to study for the ministry. He was ordained in June 1860, when the Augustana Synod was organized, and labored in the ministry for more than forty years, including ten years in Illinois. Rev. Hakan Olson died in Port Wing, Wis., June 1, 1904.

Another of the laymen of the Knoxville church during the fifties who entered the ministry at the instance of Rev. Hasselquist, was a farmer named Johannes Jönsson, afterwards known as John Johnson, who became minister of the churches in Moline and in Princeton.

The First Lutheran Church of Rockford

Rev. Erland Carlsson of Chicago in October, 1853, visited Rockford for the first time, forming the acquaintance of its Swedish settlers. To them his visit suggested the need of a Swedish Lutheran minister, and they accordingly sent a delegate to the united Chicago and Mississippi conferences, which met in Chicago Jan. 4-9, 1854, to present a request for a pastor. The conference replied that as Rev. Carlsson would again visit Rockford on the following Sunday all Swedes and Norwegians in and around the city ought to meet then and advise with him as to the organization of a church.

In accordance herewith, Rev. Carlsson came to Rockford Sunday, Jan. 15th, and, after conducting divine services and administering the Holy Communion, organized a congregation under the name of the Scandinavian Evangelical Lutheran Church of Rockford. Those joining at the time were 77 in number, including 32 children. The first deacons were Jonas Larsson and Johan Pettersson and the first trustees Johan Lundbeck and Josef Lindgren. Rev. Carlsson and his assistant A. Andreen subsequently visited the congregation four Sundays every year and the first Monday of each month.

On the 5th of March, 1855, the first annual meeting of the church was held, when the accounts submitted showed a total income of $10.49 and a total expenditure of $4.56. These modest figures, however, did not include the amount paid out to the pastors, which was raised by subscription and by occasional collections.

A special business meeting was held June 30, 1855, to devise ways and means of procuring a house of worship, the rapid growth of the Swedish population and their affiliation with the church making such a step imperative. It was decided to start a subscription and solicit funds among both Swedes and Americans for the purchase of a lot to build on, it being pointed out that the longer the delay, the higher the price. By the end of July Andreen, who seems to have had charge of the soliciting, had $300 subscribed by Swedes and $700 by Americans. In the meantime a committee composed of two men, John Larsson and

John Nelson, had purchased a lot at the corner of North First and Rock streets for the sum of $325, this transaction being ratified by the congregation Aug. 20th. The contract for building the church was let Sept. 12th to Lars Grönlund and G. P. Johnson for $725. The plans had been prepared under Rev. Carlsson's supervision and the contract specified that the building was to be completed by Dec. 1st; but only the basement was ready when the time expired.

In the spring of 1855, Andreen obtained ad interim license to preach and perform ministerial acts, but spent the following fall and spring at the seminary at Springfield. During vacation he assisted Rev. Carlsson and often preached to his countrymen in Rockford. Oct. 10th he was called as regular pastor of that church, but was not ordained until Sept. 12, 1856, having removed to Rockford and taken charge the month before.

Under the supervision of the pastor, the work of completing the church building progressed so that the edifice was finished in the fall and could be dedicated Nov. 23rd, Rev. T. N. Hasselquist officiating. It was a frame building, 45 by 28 feet and 28 feet high. In the basement was a schoolroom extending half the length of the structure. The interior was neatly painted and the aisles were laid with carpets, a luxury not common in the early Swedish-American churches. The edifice, which had a capacity of 300, was in use until the early part of 1870, when a new brick structure was ready for occupancy.

A parsonage was simultaneously erected, Rev. Andreen having made an agreement with the congregation by which he was to build a house on a part of the church lot, which the church would buy on the installment plan at actual cost, or else sell to him the ground it occupied.

In 1856 a parochial school was opened, with instruction in the Swedish language and Christianity. Magnus Munter was the first schoolmaster here as in Geneva. This parochial school has been kept up ever since. Sunday school was also begun in the early years of the church. Nov. 4, 1858, the name of the church was changed by the substitution of the word "Swedish" for "Scandinavian," its membership now being exclusively Swedish. In May, 1860, it was resolved to withdraw from the Synod of Northern Illinois and, together with other Swedish Lutheran churches, form the Augustana Synod. Harmony and unanimity reigned and the congregation contributed much to mission work, temperance work, the synodical school and other Christian endeavor.

Rev. Andreen at first had a salary of $150 and two free-will offerings a year. Not until 1859 was this amount increased, and then by only $50. At the annual meeting in 1860, no salary was fixed but instead a subscription was to be taken, the pastor to receive the whole amount

raised, whether more or less than $200. The membership was 213, 122 being communicants, and the current expenses for the year 1859 amounted to $300.

Aside from his arduous work in Rockford, Andreen found time to serve the congregation in the neighboring settlement of Pecatonica. There he organized a Swedish Lutheran church in 1857, which built a little frame church, 36 by 24 feet, the same year, at a cost of $600. It was dedicated Oct. 11th. For a number of years this church continued a part of the Rockford pastorate.

Laboring under great difficulties, Rev. Andreen nevertheless performed telling work in Rockford. Under his guidance the church made sure, if slow, progress and was given an orthodox training which proved a safe and sound foundation for future upbuilding.

He was not long to remain in Rockford, however. In 1860 he left the charge, removing to Attica, Ind., Jan. 3, 1861, the church held a meeting for the election of a new pastor, the candidates being Revs. G. Peters, J. F. Duwell and A. W. Dahlsten, a student. Twice Peters and Dahlsten received almost the same number of votes and when the election was decided by the drawing of lots, the choice fell on Dahlsten. His salary was fixed at $250. During the three years he served the church, work progressed quietly and in the right direction. The economic condition of the church improved year by year. Toward the close of 1863, Rev. Dahlsten removed to Galesburg, necessitating the calling of a pastor for the third time.

At the special meeting held for this purpose, Rev. Peters was called. This event inaugurated the most important period in the first half century of this church. Rev. Peters was destined to do the principal work of his life in the capacity of pastor of this congregation. Seldom is any pastor permitted to remain so long as he, or almost a quarter of a century, at the head of any one church, leading it through so many changes and vicissitudes, yet ever on from one triumph to another. Rev. Peters had the joy of seeing his church grow to be the largest in the Augustana Synod.

At the church meeting held upon the arrival of Rev. Peters on Jan. 1, 1864, many important questions were up for discussion. Among other things, it was decided to purchase from Rev. Andreen the parsonage erected by him, $318 being immediately subscribed for that purpose. In March the house was bought for the sum of $725 cash, several church members advancing the difference.

At the annual business meeting in 1865 the trustees submitted a very encouraging report, showing receipts amounting to $2,000 for the past year, a handsome result for those days. The audiences at divine services had outgrown the capacity of the church and a remedy had

been sought in an addition to the gallery. Nevertheless, it was plain that the old church soon would have to be abandoned by the rapidly growing congregation and on that account it was decided to proceed with the work of raising a church building fund for future needs.

At the annual meeting two years later a committee was appointed to solicit subscriptions for a new edifice. Later a building committee was appointed, consisting of four persons, who on Feb. 22, 1869, proposed plans for a church edifice seating 600 persons and costing $9,500. The dimensions were 85 by 55 feet. A couple of church members had on their own responsibility bought two desirable lots which they now tendered to the congregation. The cornerstone was laid Aug. 28, 1868, and the work was pushed to completion with such vigor that early mass could be celebrated in the new temple on Christmas morning, 1869. On New Year's day, 1870, it was dedicated by Rev. T. N. Hasselquist, president of the Augustana Synod. Although very heavy expenditures had been incurred, there was a debt of only $5,502. In 1873 a subscription toward paying off the debt was taken, amounting to $3,085.

The following year the balance of the debt was lifted. The congregation now numbered 720 communicants and 1,240 members in all, the result of only twenty years of labor, and to all appearances the future promised unimpeded progress. But in 1877 an interruption seemed imminent. From seemingly trifling causes arose dissensions which grew so serious as to theaten the church with disruption. But just then something happened which left a lasting impression in the minds of the members. On all sides they stood prepared for strife and were only awaiting the moment when the storm should break. But the storm did not come. Instead there came a gentle breeze in the form of a spiritual revival before which the storm-clouds soon disappeared. Rather than judge one another, the members now began to bring themselves to trial. For a period of two months meetings were held in the church daily, all crowding the edifice to the doors.

Having received this added impetus to further growth, the church returned to normal conditions and uniform progress. On Jan. 15, 1879, it celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary, when Rev. Erland Carlsson, the founder of the church, was present and preached an impressive sermon. Not long afterward, it began to appear that the church edifice, although but ten years old, was inadequate to hold the crowds that came there to worship. In 1881 a committee was appointed to devise a remedy and the next year it was decided that the only way was to build a new church. A great deal of preliminary work was done that year, no less than nine general business meetings and thirty-seven council and committee meetings being held. Much discussion and investigation finally led to the conclusion that it would be impracticable

to enlarge the old edifice, and after all efforts to satisfy everybody had failed, it was resolved at a general church meeting Jan. 31, 1883, to erect a new edifice on the site of the old one. The dimensions of the new house of worship were to be 80 by 126 feet, with a seating capacity of 1,950. The last services in the old sanctuary took place on Midsummer day. In two weeks from that day it was torn down, and on the 17th of July work was begun on the new structure. The cornerstone was laid Aug. 21st, by Rev. J. Wikstrand, then president of the Illinois Conference.



The First Swedish Lutheran Church of Rockford

On Aug. 27th, less than a week after the laying of the cornerstone, the malcontents withdrew from the church and organized a new congregation, styled the Zion Swedish Lutheran Church. In time the old differences were forgotten and cordial relations were established between the mother and the daughter church. The year prior a small number of dissatisfied ones had withdrawn and organized the Emanuel Church, which for a time belonged to the General Synod and sub-

sequently joined the Augustana Synod, being for many years one of its English congregations.

The work on the new church edifice progressed rapidly and the temple was ready for occupancy on the first Sunday in Advent. About one year later, or Dec. 7, 1884, the completed edifice was dedicated by President J. Wikstrand. The cost of this spacious and handsome church was $48,716, exclusive of three hundred days' work done by members without pay and material used out of the old structure. A debt of $28,129 was incurred. An excellent pipe organ was installed at a cost of $3,100. Improvements and alterations to the value of five hundred dollars were subsequently made by Mr. A. T. Lindgren, the present organist, who defrayed the expenses out of his own pocket.

Rev. Peters resigned his charge in 1882, but his resignation was rejected by unanimous vote at the annual meeting in 1884, after having lain on the table for two years. At the subsequent annual meeting Rev. Peters again resigned, but was not released from service until June, 1886, when the church secured an acceptance of its call. The new pastor was Rev. L. A. Johnston, of Des Moines, Ia., who entered upon his duties in Rockford that fall. The congregation left by Rev. Peters to his successor was quite different from the one he himself began to serve in 1864, being now a large church, requiring the full time and all the energy of its pastor. It now remained for him to build on the foundations already laid. The history of the church at this stage forms a chapter remarkable in many respects. About that time the city of Rockford enjoyed a period of exceptional prosperity, which was not without its influence on the church. The congregation grew so rapidly that in January, 1894, its membership reached 3,205, of whom 2,066 were communicants. In the meantime the daughter church also grew apace. In the winter of 1889 there was within the church a marked spiritual movement, exercising a wholesome influence on the inner life of the members and also aiding in its outward growth. The need of a pastor's assistant was felt, and as such was chosen Rev. E. C. Jessup of Peoria, who accepted the call and served from March, 1893, to May, 1895.

During Rev. Johnston's incumbency the congregation erected two new buildings, namely, a chapel in the south part of the city and a large schoolhouse and young people's hall on Kishwaukee st. These entailed an expenditure of about $10,000 and retarded in a measure the reduction of the church debt. At the annual meeting in 1892, a subscription was decided upon for the purpose of effacing that debt, then amounting to $21,000. Rev. Johnston, who undertook the task of soliciting, succeeded in obtaining subscriptions covering the entire amount, but just as the debt was about to be lifted, there came the great financial panic,

during which Rockford suffered as much as any city in the land, and thus nearly the whole result of the subscription was lost. Such was the financial stringency in the city that it was only with great difficulty this large and populous church was able to meet current expenses.

The eight years that Rev. Johnston had pastoral charge of the church formed the period of its most rapid growth. The charge was such as to tax the capacity of the most energetic worker. In the summer of 1894 Johnston was called to the First Swedish Lutheran Church of St. Paul, Minn., and removed to that field in the fall. To succeed him, Rev. Joel L. Haff of Stillwater, Minn., was called, and took up his new duties in April, 1895. His labors in Rockford were cut short within one year, sickness and death overtaking him during a visit to his former church in Stillwater, in February, 1896.

Rev. Haff in September, 1896, was succeeded by Rev. J. F. Seedoff, who took up the work under unfavorable auspices, lack of employment compelling hundreds of members not owning homes to leave the city. Adding to this the fact of a debt of $20,000 and the further circumstance that a large number of members neglected to pay their membership dues, the seriousness of the situation may be readily comprehended. The first act of Rev. Seedoff was to ascertain, with the aid of the church council, the exact number of actual members; the second, an effort to reduce the church debt. These things involved a vast amount of work and worry both for the pastor and his council. The church records were carefully searched, and the deacons visited all those, whose relations to the church were not entirely clear. In this manner the membership figure was reduced in 1901 to 1,434, the smallest number recorded since 1888. But the dues paid in by members that year amounted to $4,026, one of the largest totals for any one year. This work completed, the records of the congregation were rewritten in 1902, when the total membership was found to be 2,143, 1,493 being communicants.

For the purpose of reducing the debt, monthly meetings were arranged, when each member was expected to contribute whatever he or she was able toward the general fund. The contributions were gradually increased, making quite considerable amounts in the end. Thus the necessity of arranging bazaars and other entertainments was obviated. On Midsummer night, 1902, the congregation assembled in church, and then and there a collection was taken up, amounting to $700, with which sum the remainder of the debt was paid. From that time work has progressed without financial stress, although a costly parsonage has been purchased and about $2,000 has been expended in repairs on the church property.

The fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the church was cele-

brated with fitting festivities Jan. 15-18, 1904. At the time an illustrated souvenir album was published at the expense of the young people of the church. In that publication Rev. Seedoff gives a historical sketch from which the following data are taken: during the past half century 3,659 baptisms had been performed by the various pastors of the church, 1,483 persons had been confirmed, 942 couples had been united in holy matrimony and 1,032 burials had taken place. The sum total of money raised by the congregation during the same period amounted to $321,125.52.

At the end of the year 1906 the church numbered 2,191 members, 1,541 of whom were communicants. The property of the church was valued at $83,340.

Rev. Andreas Andreen

Rev. A. Andreen was born in Grenna parish, Småland, Sept. 10, 1827. His father, who was a poor land tenant, died while the son was but a child. About the age of twelve or thirteen, Andreen was apprenticed to a country tailor, who went from house to house plying his trade. The boy, who worked for his board alone, was badly clothed and worse shod, but despite all privations he was cheerful of mood and kind of heart. Having learned his trade and begun to work on his own account, he soon improved his circumstances.

About the age of twenty-one, he experienced a significant change of heart. His one desire was to devote his life to the service of God, but he realized the lack of the education required for the performance of fruitful work in that field. At the instance of friends he entered the teachers' seminary at Vexiö, from which he was graduated in 1851, at the age of twenty-four. He then was engaged as school-teacher at the Gripenberg estate, owned by Baron Hermelin, a son-in-law of Dr Peter Fjellstedt. In the meantime he conducted religious meetings at intervals in various parts of the district, and as he had a natural talent for public speaking, the people gladly went to hear him.

His longing for a field of greater opportunity and a chance of further development soon cut short his labors in his native locality. In the fall af 1853 we find him in New York, where he came in contact with Rev. O. G. Hedström and the Swedish Methodists, without knowing at first that they had left the Lutheran Church.

He spent the winter there, in what he thought to be a stifling spiritual atmosphere. In the spring of 1854 Rev. Erland Carlsson, having learned of the young schoolmaster and preacher, called him as his assistant in pastoral work. Highly gratified, Andreen left for Chicago late in April. During that terrible year of the cholera plague he was of great help to Rev. Carlsson. Upon recommendation of the

united Chicago and Mississippi conferences he obtained from the president of the Synod of Northern Illinois a license to labor as missionary among the Swedish and Norwegian immigrants in Chicago. This work he is said to have prosecuted with greater zeal and self-sacrifice than any other immigrant missionary that ever trod the streets of Chicago. He also labored in the Immanuel Church, especially during the absence or illness of Rev. Carlsson.

In September, 1854, Andreen went to Springfield, entering the theological department of the Illinois State University. He spent four



Rev. Andreas Andreen

terms there, continuing as Carlsson's assistant during vacations. In April, 1855, at the recommendation of the conference, he obtained a license ad interim as clergyman and was called to the church at Rockford in the fall of the same year. Sept. 12, 1856, at the synodical meeting in Dixon, Ill., he was ordained to the ministry and continued his pastoral work in Rockford till the close of 1860, when he removed to Attica, Ind., taking charge of the churches at that place, together with those of LaPorte and Baileytown, the three forming one pastorate up to 1863. About the close of 1862 or early the following year, he resigned from the church at Attica and removed to Baileytown, continuing to serve that and the LaPorte church to the end of 1865. Then

he accepted a call to Berlin, Ill., but did not assume permanent charge until fall, having been placed by the Augustana Synod in charge of the Gustaf Adolf Church in New York for five months of the year 1866.

At Berlin he labored for a term of years with noteworthy success. The unexpected loss of his wife, Hilda, daughter of Julius Esping, a pioneer settler of Geneva, broke his health and gave to his mind a brooding and pensive turn. Somewhat over a year later he was married to Gustava A. Esbjörn, née Magnusson, the widowed third wife of Rev. L. P. Esbjörn. In assuming the care of the younger of his nine children, she lifted a great burden from his mind. Nevertheless his mental state grew worse, and when his condition gave cause for alarm he was finally consigned to the Passavant Hospital at Jacksonville, in the hope of possible recovery. On the way there a visit was paid to friends in Rock Island, where, on Feb. 14, 1880, Andreen took his own life, presumably in a fit of complete insanity. He was then 52½ years old and had served in the ministry for 23 years. His death caused sincere regret wherever the zealous and sympathetic churchman was known.

Andreen was physically a good specimen of manhood and possessed a graceful and captivating manner. Naturally gifted as a speaker, with proper training he might have become an orator of note. There was that in his voice which set the chords of one's soul vibrating. Under a calm surface he concealed great depth of feeling, but rarely did he show evidence of a lack of balance in his mental equipment. Taking him all in all, Andreen holds a place alongside of Esbjörn, Hasselquist, Carlsson and Swensson in the memory of the Swedish Lutheran pioneers.

Rev. Gustaf Peters

G. Peters, who is also entitled to be classed with the pioneer pastors, was born Jan. 4, 1832, at Stödsboda, in the parish of Åsheda, Småland, where his parents, Peter Emanuel and Eva Andersson, were poor cottagers. In his childhood he suffered great hardships owing to extreme poverty. When he grew old enough to be useful, he hired out as shepherd boy during summer, and having attained the age of twelve he took a trade apprenticeship for four years.

Having had his mind directed to spiritual things in the confirmation school, and become a true Christian, he was advised by friends to become a schoolmaster. In September, 1848, he accordingly began preliminary studies under S. M. Wirsén, the schoolmaster at Elghult. He was soon given an opportunity to take part in the instruction of the younger pupils, and a couple of years later he was engaged as

assistant teacher, first at Åsheda, then at Elghult. The salary, though meager, sufficed for his urgent needs, such as clothing and books, leaving a pittance over for his parents. In January, 1854, he entered the teachers' seminary at Kalmar, remaining one term. After having taught during the following summer and fall, he returned to the seminary for the spring term of 1855, being graduated, June 15th, with fair standing.



Rev. Gustaf Peters

The goal of his ambition, as he supposed, had now been attained, but the future had other things in store for him. Through Erland Carlsson he received a call to go to the United States, which he declined, going instead to Stockholm, where he studied at the divinity school of Dr. Fjellstedt and Rev. Ahlberg in 1857-8, and when in the spring of the latter year Ahlberg returned to Smaland, Peters accepted a position as assistant instructor in his newly founded school for the training of lay preachers and remained there for one year. In response to a repeated call from America, he emigrated, leaving Kalmar July

27, 1859, arriving in New York Aug. 17th and in Chicago Aug. 24th. Having obtained a preacher's licence Sept. 12th, he became assistant to Rev. Carlsson in his arduous labors in Chicago.

Peters attended the conference meeting held in Chicago April 23-27 of the following year, when the organization of the Augustana Synod was resolved upon. He was also present in Clinton, Wis., the following June, when the resolution was carried out, being one of eight candidates who at the time were ordained for pastoral service in the new synod. Rev. O. C. T. Andrén of Moline being at the time commissioned to go to Sweden to work in the interest of the newly founded Augustana Theological Seminary, Rev. Peters was called to fill the temporary vacancy, and later, when Andrén failed to return, became permanent pastor of the Moline church. In the latter part of August, 1861, Peters was united in wedlock to Ida Helena Ström, from Kristdala, Småland. She died May 18, 1863, leaving a daughter ten months old. After that, Rev. Peters no longer felt at home in Moline. The following August he resigned the charge, and having been elected pastor of the church in Rockford the same week without his knowledge, he removed to the new field the following December.

Under another head is given an account of the work performed by him in Rockford, where he was stationed for twenty-two and one-half years. In 1886 he removed to Lincoln, Neb., and after remaining there for a year and a half went to York, Neb., for a term of years, subsequently returning to Illinois, where he labored in the ministry at various points so long as his powers permitted. Of late he has resided in Rockford, a place dear to him for having been the principal field of his labors.

In 1864 Rev. Peters was remarried, the issue of this union being eight children, four of whom are now living.

The Church in Princeton.

The first Swedish Lutheran minister to visit the Swedish settlers in Princeton was T. N. Hasselquist, who made a brief stop there in the fall of 1852, en route from Sweden to his new pastorate in Galesburg. He then officiated at a baptism, but made no effort in the direction of founding a church. In the summer of 1853, C. J. Valentin, whose acquaintance we formed in the sketch of the Moline church, began preaching at this place. The meetings were held either in the Smith schoolhouse or in the city hall. A certain Johan Anderson, who was said to have been foreman of the printing shop of "Stockholms Dagblad" and who came to Princeton in 1852, also pretended to be a minister and sometimes conducted divine services. He also went so far as to perform marriage ceremonies, and not a few couples

were united by the imposter. Neither Anderson nor Valentin long remained in this field, the former dying of cholera in 1853, the latter returning to the old country in the fall of 1854.

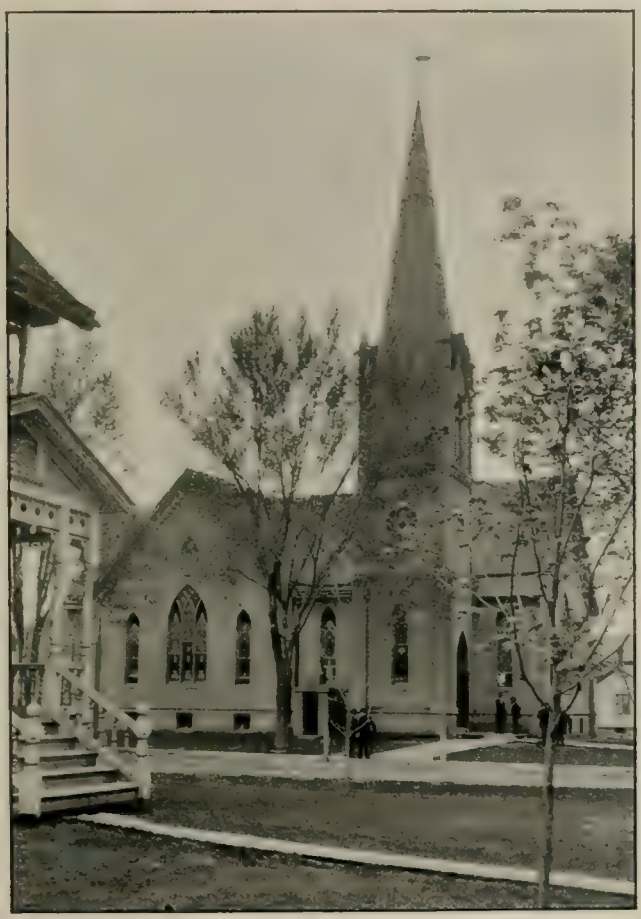
The need of organized church work, however, soon made itself felt in Princeton. On June 16, 1854, a handful of Swedish settlers gathered in the Smith schoolhouse, located at Smith and Fourth streets, intent on organizing a congregation, Rev. L. P. Esbjörn of Andover presiding. The total number of original members was 68, including 52 adults and 16 minors. At the annual meeting of the Synod of Northern Illinois, held in Peru, Ill., the following autumn, the new church was joined to the synod.

During the summer following its organization, the church had visits from Erland Carlsson of Chicago, T. N. Hasselquist of Galesburg and L. P. Esbjörn of Andover. To the conference meeting held in Andover in the fall, the church sent as its representative Per Pihlström with a request that the conference provide a regular minister or see to it that more frequent pastoral visits were made. Hasselquist was accordingly appointed to have pastoral charge of the church, also to provide for divine service every other Sunday. Having been licensed to preach, P. A. Cederstam, a divinity student, in March, 1855, was sent to Princeton in charge of the church. After a short time he was transferred to Minnesota, where the need of ministers was still more pressing than in Illinois, leaving Princeton in May, when the church was again left in Hasselquist's charge.

As yet the congregation had no house of worship. At a business meeting held May 27, 1856, it was decided to purchase two building lots located at the northwest corner of Randolph and Putnam streets, and to begin at once collecting funds for the erection of a church edifice. At this occasion the first board of trustees was elected, the members being, E. Wester, S. Frid, W. P. Lind, Carl M. Sköld and Jacob Nyman. The church extended a pastoral call to Rev. L. P. Esbjörn, who accepted and took up his new duties in Princeton June 1st, removing his family there in the fall. Early that summer he began soliciting for the church building fund, raising $540 among the American and $340 among the Swedish residents. On November 23rd the first services were held in the partially completed edifice, which was not dedicated until Sept. 12, 1858, in connection with the annual meeting of the conference. The structure, 42 by 30 feet, cost, inclusive of furniture, $1,600, of which sum $400 remained unpaid.

Sept. 20, 1857, the congregation adopted, with certain amendments, the church constitution proposed by the joint conferences. All were deeply impressed with the solemnity of the step taken, and when, at the close of the meeting, the congregation rose and all joined in

singing: "Praise be to Thee, O, God," tears came to the eyes of many, who in that moment probably realized that a tree had now been planted, in the shadow of which many generations yet unborn were to dwell. Esbjörn presided at the meeting and P. Fagererantz acted as secretary.



The Swedish Lutheran Church of Princeton

During a great part of his term of service in Princeton Esbjörn was troubled with sickness. On occasions when he was unable to serve, the meetings were conducted by Deacon A. P. Larson. But despite ill health, Esbjörn served as the leader of his countrymen even in worldly affairs. For a time he was a member of the municipal council. He did not remain long as pastor of the Princeton church. Sept. 1, 1858, he entered upon his duties as professor of the Scandinavian department of the seminary at Springfield, leaving his pulpit vacant.

During the ensuing vacancy the church was visited as often as practicable by neighboring clergymen, but under such insufficient care it was losing ground. Repeated efforts to obtain a pastor were made in vain. In 1859 a son of the well known Swedish preacher, Per Nyman, came to Princeton, where he succeeded in inspiring such confidence that he was practically made pastor of the church, although without any commission or recommendation from the conference. After a brief period of popularity, he lost the confidence of the people, whereupon his services were dispensed with.

This same year, 1859, a clergyman from Sweden named C. J. Vossner tried to get himself elected pastor of the church at Princeton. The incident forms a rather ludicrous story of pioneer life.

Vossner, who hailed from the vicinity of Eksjö, Sweden, was a regularly ordained minister of the state church and had been connected with some technological institute or other in the old country. He seems to have come to America about 1855, stopping in Michigan, where he purchased from a Norwegian named Hansen a hut and a four acre lot at White River, in Oceana county. Here he went to raising corn and potatoes on a small scale. On Sundays he held religious services in his little hut, provided any of his "parishioners," the Swedish and Norwegian settlers, put in an appearance. It frequently happened that services had to be postponed in the absence of auditors. These settlers were all single men like Vossner himself, and were employed in a sawmill near by. There was no semblance of church organization, aside from a tacit understanding that a collection for the preacher was to be taken every time the sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered. The preacher's resources being extremely meager, the communion services grew rather frequent and the attendance fell off in consequence, until the pastor and his unpretentious meetinghouse were entirely deserted. Poor Vossner, left to provide for himself, is said to have subsisted entirely on corn and molasses.

Learning that the Princeton church pulpit was vacant, Vossner opened correspondence with the notorious Erik Wester, who was at the time a member of the church, offering his services as pastor. The answer seems to have been encouraging, for Vossner forthwith loaded his few belongings, consisting of wearing apparel, earthenware, a washtub, a wooden shovel, a gun and sundry other things, into a wheelbarrow and started on his way southward. He went by boat across Lake Michigan and then by rail to Princeton, where he arrived safe and sound. Wester, who was greatly pleased with the man, did everything in his power to bring about his election to the pastorate. When Vossner began to read off his old, well-worn manuscripts, Wester turned around in his pew, well to the front, in order to study the

effect on the listeners. A deep sigh escaped him, when he noted with what total lack of interest the exhortations of the new preacher were received. So one day, when Vossner called on his friend Wester to inquire about the outlook for his election, he received the crushing reply that he "stood no show at all." Pacing up and down the room, clad in a sort of housecoat, Wester went on in outspoken fashion: "I am very sorry for you, Pastor, but the fact is, the people don't like you. They say your sermons are sheer rot."

Completely disheartened, Vossner had to leave as he had come, taking his wheelbarrow with him to Chicago. The people in Princeton, however, raised about $18 for him as a recompense for his trouble in coming. Vossner subsequently took up the practice of medicine in Chicago and, possibly, in other localities until his final return to the old country.

In the summer of 1860 the Princeton church again obtained a permanent pastor in the person of Rev. John Johnson, who was ordained at the occasion of the organization of the Augustana Synod the same year. Early in the following year the congregation purchased for $225 a house and lot for a parsonage. In the spring of the same year efforts were made to procure a pipe organ. A certain sum for that purpose was raised and sent home by those Swedes of Princeton who had enlisted in the Union army and were now serving in the field. Toward the close of 1864 Rev. Johnson was incapacitated by illness and other ministers had to be called in. He remained, however, until March, 1866, enjoying meanwhile the greater part of his salary in evidence of the esteem in which he was held by the congregation. The communicant membership during his term of service grew from 149 to 226.

Rev. Johnson was succeeded in the spring of 1866 by Rev. A. Lindholm. In 1868 the church edifice, which had grown too small, was enlarged by an addition of 36 feet, and the same year the parsonage was sold, Rev. Lindholm having purchased a home of his own north of the city. The Swedish Lutherans in Wyanet and vicinity at this time belonged to the church in Princeton, and Rev. Lindholm preached in their locality one Sunday each month. July 3, 1871, he resigned from his labors, which had brought the membership up to 450 communicants.

His successor, Rev. J. Wikstrand, was called Jan. 14, 1872. The following year the erection of a new parsonage was resolved upon and two lots at First and Mechanic streets were purchased for the sum of $750. By New Year's the building committee reported that the work had been completed at a total outlay of $2,808. Before the parsonage was built, the question of erecting a parish schoolhouse had

been ventilated, but the matter was postponed until 1874, when a schoolhouse was put up at a cost of $593. This structure still stands. At the annual business meeting at New Year's, 1875, the members living at Wyanet upon their own request were granted permission to withdraw and organize a separate congregation.

The Swedish Lutherans of Putnam, who also were members of the Princeton church, at the annual meeting in 1878 asked permission to build a chapel which was to become the property of the whole congregation, and they were aided in carrying out the enterprise. For a number of years the church had been illuminated with an altar-piece, representing Jesus blessing the little children, in which the artist had carelessly put wings on the shoulders of the mothers who brought the children to the Savior. At the aforesaid meeting the congregation resolved to have the wings removed from the picture, which was done.

After a year Rev. Wikstrand resigned, the date being March 26, 1880. He had been in charge also of the church at Kewanee, visiting there a certain number of Sundays in the year, and had served the church at Wyanet in a similar manner from its organization. At a meeting held May 3, 1880, S. A. Sandahl, a theological student, was elected to take pastoral charge at Princeton following his ordination a year later. The call was accepted with the proviso that the constitution of the church at the next annual meeting be altered to conform to the one drafted and recommended by the Augustana Synod at Andover in 1870. This was done in 1882, but with the result that 56 members withdrew at once, followed later by many others, making a total loss of 80 communicant members. Shortly after this split a new church building was proposed and a soliciting committee appointed, which reported to the annual meeting in 1885 that $2,046 had been subscribed.

In the spring of 1886 Rev. Sandahl removed to Chicago, taking charge of the Trinity Church. He was succeeded in Princeton by Rev. E. Edman, who remained only two years, or until 1888. His successor was O. A. Nelson, a theological student who, after being ordained the following spring, became the regular pastor of the church. In the fall of the same year, it was resolved to erect a new church edifice of brick, built in the form of a cross, with a steeple to one side. The dimensions were to be 82 by 40 feet, in the widest section 54 feet, and height of steeple 110 feet. There was an available building fund of $5,900, to which was added by subscription $2,615. The cost of the church furnished complete, with the exception of the organ, was $10,000. In the fall of 1891 the new sanctuary was dedicated by Rev. L. G. Abrahamson, president of the Illinois Conference. The old

structure was sold and moved away, its site being occupied by a schoolhouse.

In the spring of 1894 the pulpit again became vacant, Rev. Nelson removing to the Emmanuel Church in Minneapolis. During the term of vacancy Rev. E. Edman, who had served as missionary to India, had temporary charge. The next permanent pastor was Rev. J. A. Carlström, who assumed the pastorate in April, 1895, and served until the fall of 1898, when he went back to Sweden and entered the service of the state church, returning to America after a few years.

In September, 1899, G. E. Hemdahl, a theological student at Rock Island, was called to supply the pulpit for the ensuing school year, and after a few weeks he was chosen the regular pastor of the church, his election to take effect immediately after his ordination the following spring.

In the year 1900 the sum of $1,000 was raised by subscription to be used partly in wiping out the congregation's debt to Augustana College, partly for repairs on the parsonage. The following year the interior of the church was frescoed, and at the annual business meeting in 1902 it was resolved to purchase a new pipe organ, which cost $1,500. In 1903 a mortgage of $2,000, placed on the church property when the new edifice was erected, was lifted by general subscription. The fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the church was celebrated June 17-19, 1904, with customary festivities and by the publication of an illustrated historical memorial. In 1906 Rev. Hemdahl accepted a call to Paxton. The present pastor is Rev. John A. Berg.

The Princeton church at New Year's, 1907, had 534 communicants, 761 members all told, and property to the value of $19,000.

Rev. John Johnson

Among the Swedish Lutheran clergymen of Illinois during the pioneer period, John Johnson was one of the most interesting characters. While not eccentric in the ordinary sense, he was a man of very distinct individuality, practical views and strong personal convictions. To his credit it must be said that he was fearlessly outspoken on all questions of right and wrong.

John Johnson, whose name was originally written Johannes Jönsson, was born July 21, 1822, in Åkarp, in the Swedish province of Skåne. Beyond learning to read and write, he obtained no schooling. Being naturally bright, he endeavored to quench his thirst for knowledge by omnivorous reading. His favorite reading was books on history, law, political science and civic reform. He owned and cultivated a farm near the village of Slätteryd, and frequently acted, not without success, as legal counsel for his neighbors at the district court.

While T. N. Hasselquist was assistant pastor at Åkarp and Wittsjö, Johnson seems to have formed such an attachment for him that from that time on he was never so happy as when in his company, and he seemed to have taken the greatest delight in reasoning and debating over religious topics with Hasselquist whenever opportunity offered.

In 1851, at the age of 29, he emigrated to America, following his brother, who had left Sweden the year before. Purchasing a farm at Knoxville, Ill., and settling there, he appears to have familiarized himself with the political and religious conditions in that locality in a very short time. During the first few years he also rented land from others, and took contracts for harvesting broomcorn, employing numbers of newly arrived Swedish laborers. He apparently was a leader among the Swedish settlers in the locality, and after the arrival of Rev. Hasselquist he took a live interest in the affairs of the local congregation and was especially active in promoting the building of a church.

During the cholera epidemic of 1854 and a resultant spiritual awakening in the community Johnson seems to have experienced a complete change of heart. From that time he, as deacon of the church, used to conduct services in the absence of Rev. Hasselquist, besides leading weekly meetings in private homes conjointly with one Nils Randau. Johnson, who was a man of fluent tongue, spoke logically and with effect. Taking all this into account, and realizing the great need of ministers, Rev. Hasselquist urged him to devote himself entirely to the service of the church. He then took up private studies with Hasselquist and made occasional trips to other points to preach. In 1856 he made a preaching tour of Minnesota. Time and again he served as delegate to conference and synod meetings, always taking an active interest in the proceedings.

During the vacancy in the Princeton church, Johnson had preached there repeatedly, making himself favorably known. The congregation having tried in vain to obtain a pastor, he was finally called. Hesitating at first, Johnson, after consulting with the older ministers, decided to accept the call on condition that he would be ordained. Accordingly he went before the ministerium at the meeting in June, 1860, and was then ordained, together with seven other candidates, immediately afterward taking charge of the Princeton congregation.

Johnson, however, seems to have inclined more to a political than an ecclesiastical career. While a gifted preacher, he was still more successful as a political speaker. True, he was actuated with a live interest in church work, but still greater was the enthusiasm with which he partook in the discussion of the great civic issues which

stirred the nation at this time and which were finally solved by an appeal to arms. Johnson was bitterly opposed to slavery; to Lincoln's platform he gave his most hearty support and threw himself into his campaign with might and main. Neglecting pastoral work, he campaigned with great energy, advocating not without success the cause of the Republican party in the press and on the platform. There was a poetical vein in Johnson's makeup, and he sometimes engaged in versemaking. His lyre was attuned to the praise of liberty, justice



Rev. John Johnson

and truth. In his campaign songs he displayed great zeal for human liberty and civic rights, as applicable to conditions in the United States. His verses fired many Swedish-Americans to participation in the great campaign for the preservation of the Union. There was none among them who realized the significance of the strife more deeply than did this simple and unpretentious country parson, who also knew how to kindle the fire of enthusiasm in the hearts of his fellowmen. And when a number of the Swedes of Princeton, at the call of the great Lincoln, joined the colors and left for the field of conflict, Rev. John Johnson accompanied them to the train and handed to each and every man a copy of the New Testament—the best gift that could be bestowed.

In his last years of service at Princeton Rev. Johnson's mental powers began to fail, leaving him a sufferer for the remainder of his life. In 1866 he lived in Paxton, not, however, in active service as pastor. The following year he was so far restored as to be able to serve the church at Attica, Ind., but in 1868 he returned to Paxton, where he lived in retirement until 1871. Subsequently he had pastoral charge of the church at Farmersville, Ill., 1872-3, returning to Paxton for two years, 1874-5, and then removed to Moline, where he lived as a mental wreck until his death, Oct. 9, 1882. He left a wife, Johanna, née Bengtson, to whom he was wedded in Sweden, in 1846, and two daughters, Mrs. Rev. H. P. Quist and Mrs. C. G. Thulin of Moline.

Eric Norelius, Historian of the Augustana Synod

Eric Norelius, though young at the time of founding the Swedish-American Lutheran Church, yet must be counted among its veterans for the eminent part he took in the work of organization. His career was begun in Illinois, where he rendered valuable service to the church before removing to the state of Minnesota, his principal field of usefulness. Norelius drafted the constitution for the early churches, which underlies that of the Augustana Synod, suggested the name of the synod, has served as its president for two lengthy periods, still retaining that office, and is the historian of the Swedish Lutheran Church of America.

Eric Norelius was born Oct. 26, 1833, in the parish of Hassela, Helsingland, Sweden, and pursued elementary studies in the city of Hudiksvall prior to his emigration to America in 1850. He came over with a party of a hundred emigrants, including also an elder brother of his, Anders Norelius, who subsequently affiliated with the Swedish Baptists. At the suggestion of Esbjörn, whom he met at Andover, Norelius in the spring of 1851 entered the Capital University at Columbus, Ohio, a Lutheran institution, where he spent four years.

While a student, he received some aid from a Lutheran education society, but spent his vacations earning his living as best he might as a book colporteur and by teaching and preaching. Part of this time he conducted the parochial school of the Immanuel Church of Chicago. His studies completed, Norelius received his preacher's license from the Synod of Northern Illinois in 1855 upon recommendation of the joint Chicago and Mississippi conferences and was ordained in September of the following year. Since 1855 he has served as follows: in LaFayette, Ind., 1855; Vasa and Red Wing, Minn., churches founded by him, 1855-8; Attica, Ind., 1859-60; mission field of Minnesota, 1860-61; Vasa and Red Wing, 1861-8; Vasa, 1868-78, and con

tinued to serve as pastor of the Vasa church, with intervals, until a few years ago.

In the fall of 1857 Norelius and Jonas Engberg began to publish from Red Wing the first Swedish newspaper in Minnesota, entitled "Minnesota-Posten." In October, the year after, this paper was consolidated with "Hemlandet" of Galesburg, Ill. Chicago became the place of publication and there Norelius for the first nine months of 1859 edited this paper, besides the religious monthly, "Det Rätta Hemlandet," both under the supervision of Hasselquist. Frequent appointments to preach in neighboring churches added to his duties. His health failing, the task became too burdensome, and he resigned the editorship to resume exclusive pastoral work.

After having taken an active part in the building up of the Illinois and Minnesota conferences and the organizing of the Augustana Synod, Norelius has continued to this day one of the foremost workers of the church. In 1862 he started a private school at Red Wing. This was removed to East Union and from there to St. Peter and formed the foundation for the present Gustavus Adolphus College. Three years later he founded the orphans' home at Vasa and himself managed the institution for eleven years. In 1872 he began publishing "Luthersk Kyrkotidning," which was merged with "Augustana" the following year, and in 1877 he and Rev. P. Sjöblom founded the present "Minnesota Stats Tidning," which was first known as "Evangelisk Luthersk Tidskrift" and then for many years as "Skaffaren." When in 1889 Hasselquist's paper, "Augustana och Missionären," was increased in size and scope and made the official paper of the Augustana Synod, Norelius was chosen editor. The condition of his health compelled him to resign the editor's chair after a seven months occupancy. In 1898-9 he published "Tidskrift för svensk evangelisk luthersk kyrkohistoria," and is one of the editors of the religious quarterly "Tidskrift för teologi och kyrkliga frågor," published since the year 1900 as a continuation of the historical magazine. To "Korsbaneret," the synodical yearbook, which he edited in 1891-6, Norelius before, during and after that period contributed a number of historical and personal sketches dealing with the early period of the Swedish Lutheran Church in this country. Almost from the time he set foot on American soil Norelius has been a systematic collector of materials bearing on the Swedes of America, and this historical treasury is thought to be the most valuable of its kind. Much of it has been embodied in his principal work, a history of the Swedes and Swedish Lutheran congregations of America, not yet completed. Part I, a large volume of 870 pages, embracing the period from the beginning of wholesale immigration in the forties up to 1860, was published in 1890

by authority of the Augustana Synod. Next in importance of the seven works by Norelius, published separately, is a biography of Dr. T. N. Hasselquist.

In 1874 Norelius was elected president of the Augustana Synod and served upon successive re-elections for seven years. Again in 1899 he was chosen to the same office, and still presides over the church of



Rev. Eric Norelius

which he is now the only surviving patriarch. In 1892 the directors of Augustana College and Theological Seminary conferred upon him the honorary degree of D. D., and in 1903 King Oscar II. made him a Knight of the Order of the Polar Star in recognition of meritorious achievement in behalf of Swedish-American culture.

In 1855 Norelius was united in marriage to Inga Charlotta Peterson and in 1905 at their home in Vasa was celebrated the joint golden

anniversary of the aged pair and of the church Dr. Norelius founded and with which he has been connected for the better part of the half-century.

Norelius tells us that he came to this country as one of the so-called Luther Readers, a group of devotionalists of the Old Lutheran type, who saw in Rev. Hedberg, a Finnish divine, their spiritual leader. These believers adhered to the old books, suspecting departures from the faith in the newer ones, frowned on synergism and had misgivings about any presentation of the word of God that did not have the true Lutheran ring. Methodism did not appeal to these earnest people, but shortly after their coming to this country many of them became Baptists. In fact, Wiberg and Palmquist enjoyed the full confidence of this entire group before they changed their convictions and became pioneers of the Swedish Baptist Church in the two countries. With those who went over was his brother, Anders Norelius, but he himself stood firm. We quote this to show the stanch Lutheranism of Norelius at this early period in his life. He was among those who fought the movement for "New" or "American" Lutheranism in the fifties, and the uncompromising stand for the unaltered Augsburg Confession taken by the Augustana Synod is due in great measure to him. By one of his brethren Norelius has been characterized as a strictly logical thinker, whose apparent speculative tendency is held within proper bounds by his firm and childlike faith in the revealed Word; a positive Lutheran theologian; an objective preacher, who commands attention and interest by the soundness, depth and dignity of his presentation of gospel truths, without playing upon the feelings of his hearers.

As a historian, Dr. Norelius has accomplished a task deserving of the gratitude of the whole Swedish nationality in this country, principally for the wealth of historical material from the fifth and sixth decades of the past century embodied in his historical work. While purporting to be in the main a history of the Lutherans, it is by no means limited to them, but throws much light on the origin of other Swedish church denominations and gives many graphic first-hand sketches from pioneer days. The religious movements among the immigrants are here described by one who knew the leaders personally and stood near to many of them. Dealing, as he does, pre-eminently with his own church, Norelius could not escape the charge of bias and partiality. Inaccuracy in details is another charge urged against his work, which seems less justified in view of the fact that for many data of the pioneer period the historian was bound to trust the memory of others. Taken all in all, the Norelius history is easily superior to any of a number of works in the same field.

Augustana College and Theological Seminary

Augustana College and Theological Seminary at Rock Island, Ill., is a general institution of learning owned, controlled and maintained by the Evangelical Lutheran Augustana Synod of North America. While it is, therefore, a denominational school, and as such aims to serve, primarily, the interests of the Swedish Lutheran Church, it is open to all who desire a liberal education. Its original scope, which was that of a divinity school, has been broadened from time to time, until now the institution, while retaining the theological seminary as a university department, aims to prepare, directly or indirectly, for every vocation in life by giving the general culture or special training which modern conditions require. Its courses of instruction are patterned after the most modern and approved models, and qualitatively, at least, Augustana aims to be in the front rank of American educational institutions.

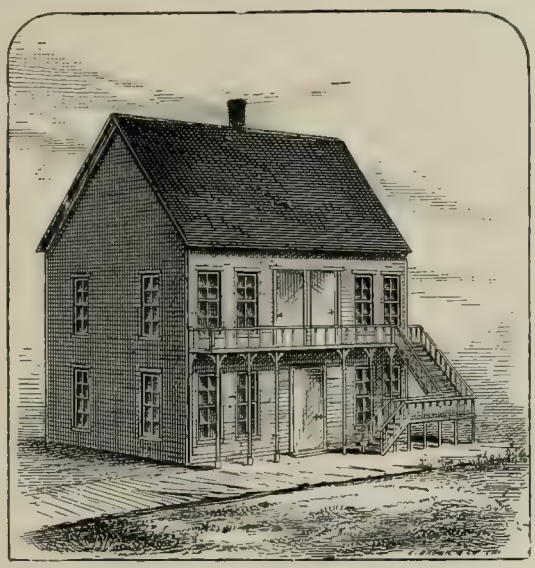
The English language is used as a medium of instruction in all subjects, except the Swedish language and literature and partly in the theological branches. The subject of Swedish naturally occupies a prominent position in the curriculum, and the institution, not forgetful of its origin, nor of present day practical needs, nor of its future mission as the exponent of Swedish culture in America, provides ample facilities for instruction in the language, literature and history of the northern fatherland. It is the object of the institution to throw about the student all the influences which make for a healthy and harmonious physical, mental and moral growth.

Augustana College is situated in the eastern part of the city of Rock Island, on the slope of a prominent bluff, reverently named Zion Hill, from which the view is striking and picturesque. To the northwest, on the opposite banks of the Mississippi, lies the city of Davenport, commandingly located on the bluffs which rise almost directly from the river. To the east the eye rests on the tall chimneys of the busy city of Moline, rendered famous by her manufactures. To the north, directly in front of the college grounds, stretches Rock Island, from which the city took its name, comprising over nine hundred acres of ground upon which is built the largest of the government arsenals together with extensive federal manufacturing plants. At the lower end of the island the two branches of the river are spanned by bridges for railroad and general traffic.

The college grounds consist of about 36 acres of land. On this tract are located the following buildings belonging to the institution: the new main building, a handsome stone structure built in the pure Renaissance style, occupied since 1888, and containing in its three stories and basement the principal recitation rooms and lecture halls

and the chapel; the old main building, occupied since 1875, used chiefly as a dormitory and refectory, with its class rooms and chapel now given over to the use of the business college; the gymnasium, the ladies' dormitory, Ericson Hall, and two buildings used as residences.

When about the year 1845 a stream of immigration from the Scandinavian countries to the United States began, the earliest settlements, as shown in the foregoing, were made in Illinois, Wisconsin,



Immanuel Parish School-house, Erected 1856, First Home of Augustana College and Theological Seminary

Iowa and Minnesota. These immigrants had been members of the Lutheran state church in their mother countries and were, as a class, religious and churchly people. Earnest and pious men came over to serve as their pastors, and Lutheran congregations were early established among both Swedes and Norwegians. At the organization of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Northern Illinois in 1851 several Scandinavian clergymen were present and took part in the organization. The scattered Scandinavian and American Lutherans in this section of the country thus were united in one common synod. The constant stream of immigration rapidly added to the numbers of the Scandinavians who before 1860 constituted about one-half of the synod, then made up of three separate conferences, the American and German Rock River Conference, the Norwegian Chicago Conference and the Swedish Mississippi Conference. This synod, in co-operation with other Lutheran bodies in the West, established a school, known

as the Illinois State University, at Springfield, for the special purpose of educating Lutheran ministers.

In the two Scandinavian conferences the need of pastors was very pressing. At their common meeting in Waverly (Leland), Ill., Oct. 3, 1855, they resolved to send a representative to Sweden and Norway with a view to inducing ministers and students of earnest and irreproachable character to come over and aid in the work. The Synod of Northern Illinois, in session at the same place for the next few days, amended this resolution by voting to found a Scandinavian professorship at the seminary in Springfield. In January, 1856, Rev. L. P. Esbjörn began to solicit funds for the maintenance of the new chair. At the next joint annual meeting of the Chicago and Mississippi conferences, held in Rockford Sept. 26-27, 1857, Rev. Esbjörn was unanimously chosen for the Scandinavian chair, the election being ratified by the synod, sitting at Cedarville Sept. 27th to Oct. 4th. Rev. Esbjörn assumed his new duties at Springfield in the fall of 1858 and served for two years. Owing to doctrinal differences between the Scandinavian and the other members of the synod, Esbjörn resigned his position in March, 1860, and early in April removed with his family to Chicago, where shortly afterward he resumed instruction, seventeen of the twenty Scandinavian students at the Springfield seminary having followed their teacher. This action brought matters to a crisis. On April 23-28 the Swedes and Norwegians met in convention at Chicago and after thorough deliberation unanimously resolved to withdraw from the synod, to organize a synod for themselves and to establish a theological seminary of their own. The result was the organization of the Scandinavian Evangelical Lutheran Augustana Synod at a subsequent convention, held at Jefferson Prairie, near Clinton, Wis., June 5-11, 1860.

The Chicago Period

It is to this meeting that Augustana College and Theological Seminary traces its origin as a synodical institution. The seminary had already been established at Chicago by Esbjörn's act af removing to that city with the Scandinavian students and continuing their instruction. By resolution at the first synodical meeting, it was officially recognized and accepted by the synod, and Rev. Esbjörn was expressly declared the synod's choice as "Scandinavian and theological professor at the Augustana Seminary in Chicago." But the first article in the constitution for the school adopted at the same meeting read: "The Augustana Synod shall establish and maintain a theological seminary now (or, for the present) located in Chicago and known as Augustana Seminary." It was an oddly worded article, which fore-

shadowed the strife over the location of Augustana that has agitated the synod more or less down to recent years. Esbjörn and others favored the permanent retention of the school in Chicago, while Erland Carlsson, Hasselquist and others were for locating it in the country. The article in question could be interpreted to favor either side. Carlsson at this same meeting moved, and it was resolved, to draw up plans for purchasing land and starting farming for the benefit of the seminary. Thereby the door was opened for experiment and we find its promoters and sponsors again and again in quest of land where the institution might be located in the heart of some populous Swedish agricultural section. The institution was removed first to Paxton, then to Rock Island, but in neither place quite successful realty investments were made, the farming project was never carried out, and the advantages obtained by the removal from Chicago are still a matter of opinion.

The first president of the new institution was Rev. Esbjörn and the following constituted the first board of directors: Rev. T. N. Hasselquist and Mr. F. Langeland, elected for four years, Rev. Erland Carlsson and Mr. S. Gabrielson, for three years, Rev. O. Andrewson and Mr. C. Strömberg, for two years, Rev. O. J. Hatlestad and Mr. C. J. Anderson, for one year. Mr. Andrew Nelson Braekke of Chicago was elected treasurer. Rev. Carlsson was the first president of the board, but Rev. Hasselquist soon succeeded to the presidency of the directorate and made the annual report to the synod on the first year's progress. The Immanuel Church is credited with having furnished the students with room, board and washing for the first two weeks of the fall term, and of the $737 in cash donations received during the first year $576 came from Swedish and $161 from Norwegian churches.

The urgent need of means for the maintenance of the school and the prosecution of its work prompted a resolution by the board to send a representative to Sweden to petition the king for a collection to be taken in all the churches of the realm for the benefit of the new seminary. The emissary was also to solicit donations of money and books by direct personal effort.

Prof. Esbjörn was appointed to solicit funds in the United States and to go on a special mission to Columbus, Ohio, to secure the transfer to the seminary of $1,500 given by Jenny Lind-Goldschmidt to the Capital University as a foundation for a Scandinavian chair.

King Charles XV. granted the privilege of soliciting and receiving collections from the churches in Sweden during a period of two years. Rev. O. C. T. Andrén, who was the emissary, resigned his commission Sept. 1, 1861, to settle down in Sweden, but the work was subsequently

taken up by Esbjörn and so successfully pushed that a total sum of $10,846 was realized from that source. In addition thereto, King Charles XV. himself donated 5,000 volumes from his private library.

As to the Jenny Lind donation Dr. Norelius, who was at the time the only Swedish student at Capital University, gives this account: Dr. Reynolds, then president of the institution, arbitrarily used the money without rendering any account of it to the board of regents, and upon inquiry into the matter no trace of the fund was found, either in the treasury or in the records. It may be added that Dr. Reynolds left his position after putting the school into serious straits by bad financial management. Later he became president of the Springfield seminary, named the Illinois State University, and it was his peculiar tactics that forced Esbjörn's sudden resignation and removal, although doctrinal differences in the Synod of Northern Illinois had paved the way for that step.

How to secure capable instructors was another vexed question. During the first year Prof. Esbjörn, the only regular professor, was assisted by Rev. Abraham Jacobson and several students, while Rev. C. J. P. Peterson, recently from Norway, gave instruction without charge to the Norwegian students, but declined an offer of a professorship. The attendance during the first year was 21.

The synod in 1861 instructed the board to extend a call to P. P. Waldenström of Upsala, who years afterward dissented from the state church and became the leading spirit in the Mission Covenant of Sweden. It was decided to send A. J. Lindström, a student, to Upsala University to prepare for teaching at the seminary. Lindström earned the degree of Ph. D., was ordained to the ministry and then assumed the designated position, serving 1870-71. Despite appeals to the Norwegian constituency of the synod, a suitable man to give instruction in that language had not been found up to 1863. An English tutor was not secured until the following year, when Rev. William Kopp of the Pennsylvania Synod was called.

While in Sweden in the interest of the seminary in 1862, Prof. Esbjörn resigned his position and accepted an appointment by the crown to become pastor of the parish of Öster-Vahla.

The chief motive for this step doubtless was his love of the fatherland, but he had other reasons. On many points he and Rev. Hasselquist held different views. The latter had opposed his election to the Scandinavian professorship in Springfield, having negotiated with Peter Fjellstedt of Sweden to take the place, and now they took issue with one another on the removal of the seminary to Paxton. Several months prior to Esbjörn's resignation the board of directors had urged Hasselquist to remove to Paxton and use his influence as

president of the synod in promoting the colonization plan in behalf of the school. He thus became the pastor of the new congregation there and as one of the prime movers in the enterprise naturally would have a decisive voice in affairs. Disliking to stand in the way of either the financial plan or the personal ambitions of his brother churchman, Esbjörn chose to yield, when so favorable an opportunity was given.

Both Waldenström and Andrén having declined calls to become his successor, Rev. Hasselquist was chosen temporary professor to fill the vacancy. In 1863 the synod authorized the board to secure Rev. Sven L. Bring, or some other capable man from Sweden. Failing in this, the synod at its next annual meeting made Hasselquist the incumbent of the theological chair until further action should be taken. No change was ever made, and Hasselquist remained as professor and president of the institution until his death, Feb. 4, 1891.

The Paxton Period

The permanent location of the seminary had not been determined. In 1860 a tract of land in Grundy county, Iowa, was offered on condition that the institution be located there. Of this tract 700 acres was to be a gift to the school and 2,640 acres to be sold, partially for its benefit. The land being found unsuitable for the purpose, the offer was rejected, but other tracts in the same locality so appealed to the investigators that they recommended the founding of a colony in Butler, Grundy or Black Hawk county, Iowa, and the removal of the seminary to the locality that should be selected. A detailed colonization plan was formulated, a site was selected at Applington, Butler county, and purchasers were invited, but none responded. The failure of the plan was charged to the uncertain business conditions incident to the Civil War.

Subsequently the directors received from the Illinois Central Ry. Co. an offer of 5,000 acres of land at $6 per acre, and a commission of one dollar per acre on a tract of 20,000 acres and 50 cents on an additional 40,000 acres to be sold through their efforts, all on condition that the institution be located at some station along the Illinois Central line.

At the synodical meeting held in Chicago June 23-29, 1863, the removal of the seminary to Paxton, Ill., was decided upon, an agreement with the Illinois Central people being simultaneously ratified. Pursuant to this agreement 1,000 acres of land had already been purchased from the company at $6 per acre, and the directors had been given the agency for the sale of 30,000 acres at a commission of one dollar per acre and an additional 30,000 at a commission of 50 cents

per acre. The board bound itself to dispose of 10,000 acres within one year from the signing of the contract. By June 1st four thousand acres had been sold and $2,350 in commissions had been received. A congregation had been organized at Paxton and a schoolhouse costing $750



Augustana College "Valhalla," First School Building at Paxton

had been purchased for the use of the seminary, which was to open there in the fall. About the middle of September the fall term opened. Owing to the unfinished condition of the new quarters, Rev. Hasselquist had to accommodate the students for the first two months in his private residence. During the first year at Paxton the seminary was

attended by ten students, of whom seven were Swedes and three Norwegians.

In 1865 the institution was granted a special charter stipulating that Augustana Seminary was to have its location in Paxton or its vicinity and might own $50,000 worth of property free of taxation. In 1869 the charter was amended, changing the name to Augustana College and Theological Seminary, requiring merely that its location be within the boundaries of the state, and raising the limit on non-assessable property to $100,000.

Instruction was given in college classes as early as 1866, but it was not till ten years later, in 1876, that a senior class was formed. From 1863 to 1870 the average number of students in attendance was about 35.

In 1870, following the friendly separation of the Norwegians from the synod, new by-laws for the institution were adopted, providing for both a preparatory and a complete college course of instruction in addition to the theological course comprising two years. At their withdrawal the Norwegians received the sum of $10,000, which had been collected as a fund for the establishment of a Norwegian professorship at the common institution.

The Rock Island Period

In the meantime the stream of Swedish immigration bore mainly westward and northwest from Chicago. The plan to surround the institution with populous Swedish settlements about Paxton miscarried and the desirability of a more central location became more apparent year by year. The matter was first broached publicly at the synodical meeting in 1868, an offer of $40,000 in cash and 10 acres of ground having been made on condition that the school be located in Geneseo. Later the would-be donors went back on their promise, and the authorities looked about for some other acceptable location. Five years passed before any definite step was taken. Then Rock Island was settled upon as the most favorable location available, and in 1873 a tract of 19 acres in the eastern part of the city was purchased for $10,000.

On this site the first main building, a brick structure with three stories and basement, was erected with all possible expedition. It was completed for occupancy in the summer of 1875; the removal of the institution took place at that time and instruction was begun in the new college building at the opening of the fall term in September of that year. In addition, two frame dwellings were built, also a two-story and basement brick structure for the use of the president and the

theological classes. The cost of the first four buildings was $53,000.

By a synodical resolution in 1873 every adult member of the synod was required to pay 25 cents annually toward the support of the institution.



Augustana College Main Building, Dormitory and Gymnasium

From 1868 to 1873 there had been two classes in the preparatory department, two in the college and one in the seminary. The latter year a third college class was added and the year after a third

preparatory class. Two years later the fourth or senior class was formed in college and was graduated in 1877. The first college class graduated from Augustana consisted of: Carl Aaron Swensson, C. J. Petri, Matthias Wahlström, Constantine M. Esbjörn, Joshua Hasselquist and J. H. Randahl.

In the year 1879 Augustana College was placed on the same level with the colleges in Sweden by act of the Swedish department of ecclesiastics granting its graduates admittance to the universities of Upsala and Lund without examination.

A scientific course in college was established in 1880, but efficient instruction in the natural sciences had been previously given, especially since 1878, when Josua Lindahl, a well-known scientist of Sweden, was engaged to teach that branch. He occupied the chair of science for ten years, until his appointment in 1888 as state geologist and curator of the museum at Springfield.

Gradually the institution attracted students of other than Swedish descent, and to meet their needs a special classical course without Swedish was introduced in 1882.

Prior to 1885-6 female students were rare at Augustana and were not matriculated. During the next few years their number rapidly increased and co-education became an established fact. The principal impetus was the establishment of the conservatory of music in January, 1886. Two years later there was added a commercial department, named Augustana Business College. A normal department followed in 1891 and an art department in 1895.

The original plan of the theological seminary, to have at least three professors, one for each of the leading languages used—Swedish, Norwegian and English—was not fully realized until 1868, when Rev. S. L. Harkey was elected to the chair of the English language and Rev. A. Wenaas to that of the Norwegian. When the synod was split in 1870 the plan had to be completely recast. The courses were gradually made to embrace two years, and from 1874 there were two regular classes in the seminary up to 1890, when the university plan was adopted, substituting courses for classes. The number of courses, at first fourteen, has since been increased to twenty.

In the college proper ten departments have gradually been established, viz., Swedish, English and philosophy, Latin, Greek, modern languages, Christianity, history and political science, biology and geology, physics and chemistry, and mathematics and astronomy. Swedish and English were provided for in the original plan. Around the Swedish chair clustered Christianity, German and the classics, and around the English chair, history, philosophy, mathematics and the sciences. As a rule these subjects were taught in the language around

which they were grouped. Post-graduate courses were introduced in the college in 1891 and in the seminary a year later.

Within ten years of its erection the first college building became inadequate. The synod in 1883 resolved to erect a new main building of brick at an estimated cost of $55,000. The cornerstone was laid in 1884, on November 6th, a date memorable in the history of the Reformation. A total of $30,000 had been subscribed and the next year Mr. P. L. Cable of Rock Island came to the assistance of the synod by donating the sum of $25,000 to the building fund. The building plans were then changed so as to provide for stone



Augustana College Chapel

instead of brick as building material, thereby adding about $30,000 to the estimated cost. The outer shell of the structure having been erected, the building stood thus for some time before the additional funds necessary for its completion could be raised. This was finally accomplished, and early in 1888 the interior of the new building was so far finished that the class rooms could be occupied. The dedication took place June 12, 1889. In 1891 the finishing touches were put to the building by the erection of the cupola and the portico.

The institution has always been open to students without regard to language, race, nationality or creed. Of the students in the theological seminary about 650 have been ordained to the holy ministry in the Augustana Synod. From the college department about 425 have

been graduated with the degree of A. B. or B. S. The commercial college numbers some 650 graduates, the conservatory of music over 40 and the normal department about the same number. During the academic year ending in 1907 the total attendance was 570.

As recorded, Prof. L. P. Esbjörn was the president of the institution during the first three school years, his term ending by resignation in 1863. He was succeeded by Dr. T. N. Hasselquist, who served for several years as temporary president and then as permanent head of the institution until his death in February, 1891. His successor was Dr. Olof Olsson, whose services were determined by death in May, 1900. That year the synod called to the presidency Dr. Carl A. Swensson, head of Bethany College, upon whose declination Dr. C. W. Foss, the vice president, became acting president for the year 1900-1901. In June, 1901, the synod elected as president Dr. Gustav A. Andreen of Yale University, who is the present incumbent of the office.

Following are the men of other than Swedish descent who have been connected with Augustana as professors for various periods: Rev. W. Kopp, 1864-7; Rev. A. Wenaas, 1868-70; S. L. Harkey, D. D., 1868-70; Rev. Henry Reck, A. M., 1873-81; W. F. Eyster, A. M., 1875-82; R. F. Weidner, D. D., 1882-94; Rev. G. W. Sandt, A. M., 1884-88; A. W. Williamson, Ph. D., 1880-1905; Rev. E. F. Bartholomew, D. D., Ph. D., 1888—.

During the school year that ended in the spring of 1908 the teaching force of the institution in its entirety consisted of a faculty of twenty-two regular professors, besides sixteen instructors, teachers, and assistants. The regular professors are here given: Rev. Conrad Emil Lindberg, D. D., R. N. O., vice president, professor of systematic theology, hermeneutics, liturgics, apologetics and church polity; Rev. Carl August Blomgren, Ph. D., secretary, professor of Hebrew, Old Testament introduction, propaedeutics and English homiletics; Claude W. Foss, Ph., D., professor of history and political science; Charles Linus Eugene Esbjörn, A. M., professor of modern languages; Rev. Edward Fry Bartholomew, D. D., Ph. D., professor of English literature and philosophy; John August Udden, Ph. D., F. G. S. A., F. A. A. A. S., Oscar II. professor of natural history; Rev. Nils Forsander, D. D., R. N. O., professor of historical theology and Swedish homiletics; Rev. Sven Gustaf Youngert, D. D., Ph. D., professor of philosophy, Greek New Testament exegesis, New Testament introduction and catechetics; Isaac Morene Anderson, A. M., professor of the Greek language and literature; Linus Warner Kling, A. M., professor of the Latin language and literature; Rev. Jules Göthe Ultimus Mauritzson, B. D., professor of the Swedish language and literature; Emil Larson, professor of organ, piano and theory, director of conservatory; Rev.

August William Kjellstrand, A. M., professor of English in the academy and assistant professor of Latin; John Peter Magnusson, Ph. D., professor of physics and chemistry; William Emanuel Cederberg,



Augustana College—Gustav Andreen, President

B. S., Ph. B., professor of mathematics and mechanical drawing; Mrs. Edla Lund, professor of voice, sight singing and ear training; Olof Grafström, professor of painting and drawing; Caleb Larson

Krantz, M. Accts., professor of bookkeeping, penmanship, spelling, correspondence and grammar; Andrew Kempe, A. B., M. Accts., LL. B., professor of banking, commercial law, bookkeeping, civics and mathematics; Sigfrid Laurin, professor of piano; Iva Carrie Pearce, B. E., professor of elocution and physical culture; Gertrude Housel, professor of violin and piano and director of orchestra. The total enrollment for the school-year of 1907-8 was 462, the number of male students being 306 and the female, 156.

Olof Olsson, Pastor, Educator and Author

Dr. Olof Olsson's chief service to the Swedish-Americans was rendered during the twenty-one years he was connected with Augustana College and Theological Seminary. His pastoral work in this country was performed mostly during the years he was in charge of the church at Lindsborg, Kansas, but he continued to be an influential preacher in the Augustana Synod until his death. Before coming to America he had labored fruitfully as a minister of the state church for more than five years. His authorship, which consists of devotional works or books of travel written in a religious vein, is mostly the leisure work done during his last twenty years, yet rank with the best Swedish literary products in the United States.

Olof Olsson was a native of Vermland, Sweden, born at Björntorp, Karlskoga parish, March 31, 1841. Being the son of a common workman in the iron range, the boy was early put to hard work. His parents were Pietists of the strictest sort, who brought up their children according to Christian precepts. The father was extremely stern, but the mother's milder aspect of religion enabled her to make it attractive to her sons, and Olof at an early age became imbued with her spiritual ardor. He was studious and showed decided musical talent, wherefore he was placed under the tutorship of Svante Sedström, organist and cantor of Fredsberg parish, Vestergötland, who, being a man of liberal education, took his apt pupil quite a little way in his studies. Returning home after one year, he much preferred his books to manual labor. About this time Dr. Fjellstedt sent out ringing appeals for pious young men to dedicate their lives to work in the foreign missionary field, and after a talk with the pious divine on one of his visits to Vermland, Olsson entered the Fjellstedt missionary institute, determined to devote himself to work among the heathen. Friends of the family and brethren in the faith in the circle of evangelical Pietists in Karlskoga promised the needed support. He entered the school in 1858. After a year the authorities of the institution concluded to send the able and devout young student to the missionary institute in Leipsic to complete his course. But the stale formalism and high-

church orthodoxy pervading that school was repulsive to him and he soon returned home disheartened and with shattered ideals. He was engaged for a short time as teacher at an orphanage in Wall, then went to Upsala, determined to study for the ministry and enter the service of the state church of Sweden. He completed the college course in January, 1861, and the divinity studies in 1863, whereupon



Rev. Olof Olsson

he was ordained in December, in the Upsala Cathedral. He now served in turn as adjunct pastor in Brunskog, vice pastor in Elga, pastor at the Persberg mines and mills near Filipstad and curate in Sunnemo. Olsson proved a stirring preacher, whose work resulted in notable revivals, wherever he was stationed. By his affiliation with the evangelistic movement promoted by the Readers, or Devotionalists he won the favor and confidence of his earnest brethren in the clergy, but incurred also the odium of the worldly class, and notwithstanding

perceptible pastoral successes, he finally became discouraged and concluded that true gospel work could hardly be carried on under the trammels of the state church.

To escape the religious restraint, Olsson resolved to emigrate, and soon headed a party of people who shared his sentiments on the voyage to the New World. They came over in 1869 and founded a settlement in McPherson county, Kansas, now known as Lindsborg. Olsson became their pastor and served as their spiritual and temporal adviser for seven years. Prior to his coming to this country, he had familiarized himself with the work and status of the Augustana Synod, but the question of joining that body was left open for the time being. It was not long, however, until he and his church joined the synod. While at Lindsborg, Olsson was elected superintendent of schools of the county and for a term represented the district in the Kansas legislature.

After a few years Rev. Olsson enjoyed the confidence of the synod to the extent that he was in 1875 called to a chair in its theological seminary at Rock Island. Accepting the proffered position he entered upon his duties as an educator the following year. He taught there for twelve years. After resigning his professorship he worked for a short time in behalf of Bethany College, at Lindsborg, then spent one year abroad with his family, consisting of three daughters and one son. His wife, Anna Lovisa Johnson, whom he married in 1864, had died in 1887. Upon his return Olsson assumed charge of the church in Woodhull, Ill., but a position of greater responsibility was soon to be his. When in 1891 death removed Dr. Hasselquist from the presidency of Augustana College and Theological Seminary, Olsson was the logical successor. He was called by the board as acting president and was unanimously elected president of the institution at the synodical meeting the same year. In this capacity he served until his death, which occurred May 12, 1900.

Without a great deal of schooling, Olsson was a man of profound scholarship, attained by constant private study, travel and research, and of wide knowledge and experience, gained in the great school of life. Consequently, when in 1892 the Augustana College board conferred on him the degree of D. D. and Upsala University the following year that of Ph. D., these were no empty honors. Aside from his services to Augustana, as teacher and president, Dr. Olsson rendered this institution valuable services in soliciting many thousands of dollars for its maintenance. Upon his return from a European trip in 1879 he presented several new ideas applicable to the work of the Augustana Synod, and the great oratorio festivals at Rock Island and Lindsborg, the Augustana Conservatory of Music, as also the Augus-

tana Hospital in Chicago, were realized at his initiative. During the prevalent defection from Lutheranism to Socinianism in the seventies, Dr. Olsson, although favoring free evangelism, took a determined stand in opposition to this movement on doctrinal grounds, and but for him the synod's loss to Waldenström's following and the Mission Friends in general would unquestionably have been much greater.

In the character of Dr. Olsson the qualities of the heart were predominant. He was a man of intense feeling, a warm sentimentalist, with a temperament oscillating between the extremes of joviality and melancholy. He knew the art of popularizing his learning. His sermons and writings were on a level with the intelligence of the common people and appealed strongly to them. His books were published in comparatively large editions, enjoyed great popularity when first published, and they are still extensively read.

The following are the published works of Dr. Olsson: "Vid korset," devotional; "Det kristna hoppet," being meditations upon the death of his beloved wife, dedicated to her memory; "Helsningar fran fjerran," his first book of travel, dealing with his trip in 1879; "Nagot om känslans bildning"; "Reformationen och socinianismen"; "Vi bekänna Kristus"; "Till Rom och hem igen," 1890, an arraignment of Romanism in the form of a book of travel, containing also snatches of philosophy, church and profane history, descriptions and meditations in pleasing profusion; lastly, a posthumous volume of sermons and lectures, 1903. Dr. Olsson possessed a fascinating literary style, and his writings, like his public addresses, abound in wit, epigram, delicate sentiment and profound thought.

The Illinois Conference

The Synod of Northern Illinois was composed of Lutherans of various nationalities—Americans, Germans, Norwegians and Swedes. It was early subdivided into two districts, the Rock River and the Chicago conferences. These divisions were not strictly geographical but based largely on nationality, the Americans and Germans being counted with the former and the Scandinavians, or rather, the Norwegians, with the latter; for the district comprised, when organized in 1851, no Swedish minister or congregation. Where Rev. Esbjörn and his churches in western Illinois should belong was not definitely stated, but at the second synodical convention, held in 1852, a third conference district was formed, to be known as the Mississippi Conference. The pastors Esbjörn and Hasselquist and the licensed preachers Valentin and Hokanson, with the churches in their charge, constituted its first membership. The Swedish churches which soon came

into existence in the Chicago Conference were added to the Mississippi Conference. Thus the former came to be all Norwegian and the latter all Swedish. But the two held joint conferences annually, wherein the younger Minnesota Conference soon joined.



Swedish Lutheran Church at Paxton First Edifice

The meeting of the Mississippi Conference held at Moline, Jan. 6-9, 1853, was the first Swedish Lutheran church convention in America. The delegates in attendance were: ministers, Esbjörn, Hasselquist and Valentin; laymen, Samuel Jönsson of Andover, Johannes Jönsson of Knoxville and Carl Lindman of Moline. Of two other meetings held the same year, at Andover and Galesburg, respectively, no minutes

were preserved. The joint meeting held in Chicago Jan. 4-9, 1854, by the Mississippi and Chicago conferences, was the first of its kind and one of the most important conventions held prior to 1860. The lack of ministers being one of the most pressing needs of the time, a remedy was sought in two ways—licensing devout and able lay preachers and calling ministers from the fatherland. Before going abroad for teachers it was thought best, however, to organize regular congregations. Many and widely scattered as the Swedish settlements were, this work could not be accomplished at once by the mere handful of Swedish pastors in the field, but the plan was imparted to the various communities in a circular letter. At this stage the idea of the conference calling ministers for the individual churches, as set forth in the plan, was probably the only practicable method, and this was the practice for a number of years. Later the choice was vested in the congregations themselves. The license system, though a temporary expedient, did not meet the needs, and was gradually abandoned. In all other essentials, this meeting committed itself to the principles and practices ever since generally followed among the Scandinavian Lutherans of America.

When the Mississippi Conference met in Andover in December of the same year, Dr. Peter Fjellstedt of Sweden was commissioned to select and call pastors who were thought willing to leave their country to preach the gospel to their scattered countrymen in the United States. At this meeting the Andover church was dedicated. When, at a joint conference meeting in Waverly (Leland), Ill., in October, 1855, calls extended to ministers in the old country were found to have elicited no favorable responses, the plan to educate men to supply the need was first suggested, and resolutions were passed looking to the establishment of a Scandinavian professorship at the theological school maintained at Springfield by the Synod of Northern Illinois.

At a joint meeting of the two conferences in Chicago March 18-23, 1857, it was decided to ask the churches to contribute $25 each per annum toward the maintenance of the proposed professorship and to call a professor as soon as $500 had been raised. The other important thing done at this time was the adoption of a proposed constitution to be accepted in its essential parts by the congregations as a condition of membership in the conferences. This document, submitted by L. P. Esbjörn, E. Norelius, Erland Carlsson and O. C. T. Andrén, and chiefly the work of Norelius, committed the churches to the unaltered Augsburg Confession and laid down the law for church government, which, with certain alterations, has been followed by the Swedish Lutherans generally to the present time. In September of the same year, while assembled at Rockford, the conferences elected a candidate for the



Gethsemane Swedish Lutheran Church, Chicago

professorship, subject to the action of the next synodical convention. Esbjörn was the choice, with all but two votes cast in his favor. The lack of ministers was a standing topic for discussion at the meetings. Calls extended to clergymen in Sweden were continually declined, and the education of its own pastors had become an imperative condition for the progress of the young church.

The lack of unanimity between the orthodox and the New Lutherans of the synod and difficulties which hampered the work of Esbjörn at the seminary in Springfield, prompted the organization in 1860 of an independent Scandinavian Lutheran church body named the Augustana Synod. Prior thereto the northern part of the Mississippi Conference had been formed into a separate organization named the Minnesota Conference. With this exception the Mississippi Conference comprised the entire Swedish Lutheran field in the United States, mainly the settlements in Illinois, Indiana and Iowa. The Swedes and the Norwegians remained one synodical body until 1870, when their ways parted. The separation was amicable and the Norwegian brethren withdrew to form a distinct synod. At the subsequent subdivision of the Augustana Synod into the New York, Illinois, Minnesota, Iowa and Kansas conferences, the Illinois Conference, whose territory comprised Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and the southern part of Wisconsin, became the natural continuation of the old Mississippi Conference, wherefore the origin of the Illinois Conference is dated back to 1853.

At the first meeting of the conference under its new name in August, 1870, the field was divided into two districts corresponding to the respective territories of the former Chicago and Mississippi conferences. In 1877 there were seven districts in all, and after further growth and subdivision thirteen districts now compose the conference.

Augustana College and Theological Seminary was founded in the territory of this conference, which has always contributed the greatest share toward the support of the school. The other conferences, having each established one or more colleges or schools of their own, look to the Illinois and Iowa conferences to furnish the main support of the synodical institution.

This conference maintains four charitable institutions exclusively its own, namely, the Augustana Hospital in Chicago, orphans' homes at Andover and Joliet and the Salem Home for the Aged, also at Joliet.

At the organization meeting of the Mississippi Conference divine services were held once in the English language, but aside from the English classes in the Sunday schools the work has been conducted almost exclusively in the Swedish language until in recent years

several congregations worshiping exclusively in the language of the land have been established. Many others are using the two languages interchangeably, as a concession to the needs of the younger generation.



Trinity Swedish Lutheran Church, Chicago

For the first few years of the conference there are no statistics. The first report of the condition of the treasury is found in the minutes of the meeting held in 1867, showing $173.67 in receipts and $76.10 in disbursements. In 1871 there were 41 congregations with a total membership of 15,292, the result of about 20 years of work. During the next period of 18 years there was an increase to 132 churches and 40,702 members, as shown by the statistics of 1889. These also show



Illinois Conference Fiftieth Anniversary, Moline, 1903

the value of church property, less debts, to be $642,500. The expenses and contributions for all purposes aggregated $200,000. From the statistics of 1906 for the entire conference we derive, by excluding the six conference districts lying wholly outside the state, the following data relative to the Swedish Lutherans in Illinois: number of congregations, 117; members, 46,239; value of church property, exclusive of the charitable institutions, $1,373,622; debt on same, $186,862; local church expenditures, $285,568; contributions of local churches to general funds, of the Augustana Synod, $16,318, of the Illinois Conference, $18,170; expenditures for all church purposes for the year, $320,057.

The Augustana Hospital

The need of a Swedish hospital was early felt in Chicago, especially among the Swedish Lutherans. Rev. Erland Carlsson had not labored long in this field, when, realizing this need, he established a private hospital in rented quarters. This institution, especially designed for sick and ailing immigrants, later was merged with the hospital established by Dr. Passavant. The great fire put an end to this work for many years, but the idea of a Swedish Lutheran hospital was still kept alive, and in 1880 the first step toward its realization was taken.

That year Dr. O. Olsson in a newspaper article suggested the establishment of a deaconess institute in connection with a hospital after the pattern of benevolent institutions in Germany, which country he had visited the year before. At Dr. Olsson's initiative a meeting to discuss the matter was held at Moline Nov. 6th of the same year. Then and there a committee was chosen to pave the way for the enterprise. Its members were, Revs. O. Olsson, G. Peters, C. A. Evald, C. P. Rydholm, H. O. Lindeblad and Messrs. Peter Colseth and C. G. Thulin. They were instructed to make inquiries whether one or two deaconesses could be had from Stockholm, also to advise with Dr. Passavant and to negotiate with him for the use of part of certain grounds in Lake View given him for hospital purposes. Letters containing much encouragement and some cash, the latter amounting all in all to $161, were received, but nothing further was accomplished up to February, 1881, when the question was taken up at the meeting of the Illinois Conference in Chicago. There Rev. C. B. L. Boman was added to the committee and the cause was recommended to the congregations as worthy of their hearty support. In October the committee recommended Lake View as the location of the future institution and the conference at its next meeting authorized the purchase of property in that part of Chicago for a sum not to exceed $10,000. But up to that time little more than $600 had been received. The committee was,

therefore, given the alternative of starting hospital and deaconess work in rented quarters. Dr. Passavant, while warmly favoring the project, was constrained to decline the committee's request for the purchase of any part of the ground controlled by him, but he offered



Augustana Hospital

to erect thereon a building for $5,000 that might be used for the purpose in question almost gratuitously for a period of five or ten years.

At this same conference meeting, held in February, 1882, the first hospital board was elected, consisting of the following: ministers,

Erland Carlsson, O. Olsson, C. B. L. Boman, M. C. Ranseen; laymen, C. P. Holmberg, G. A. Bohman, John Erlander. At its first meeting, Feb. 13th, incorporation papers were made out and the following officers chosen: Erland Carlsson, president; O. Olsson, vice president; C. B. L. Boman, secretary, and C. P. Holmberg, treasurer. An executive committee was made up of the president, the treasurer and M. C. Ranseen, as the third member.

By New Year's, 1884, the hospital fund amounted to about $1,200. With this money at their disposal the board had instructions to open the institution shortly after the following conference meeting in February. On Feb. 20th, the board accepted an offer from Dr. Passavant to the effect that four acres of the hospital grounds in Lake View would be leased to them for twenty years and a building for $5,000 to $10,000 erected for their use, on condition that the new hospital would care for a reasonable proportion of the patients for whom Dr. Passavant had assumed responsibility. This agreement was sanctioned by the conference then in session. The constitution adopted at this same meeting named the new hospital The Deaconess Institution of the Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Church, and defined its aim and purpose as follows: to care for the sick according to the Lord's command and to educate and train Christian nurses of the evangelical Lutheran faith.

In March, 1884, the homestead of Rev. Carlsson, located at Lincoln and Cleveland avenues, was secured as a temporary hospital, at a rental of $50 per month. Dr. Truman W. Miller was selected as chief physician, with two assistants, and on May 28th the institution was dedicated and formally opened, its first patient being a Miss Nibelius, who broke her leg in stepping off the street car which brought her to attend the dedication.

The Deaconess Institute of Stockholm having declined to send trained deaconesses, Mrs. Hilda Carlsson was appointed matron and Miss Lottie Freid assistant, the latter being in reality the first nurse at the institution. The new hospital had fifteen beds, which were soon occupied. All went well until Oct. 29th, when a disastrous fire occurred, stopping operations until the beginning of the year 1885, when the building was again occupied, repairs having been made and one story added to the building.

In September, 1884, the conference rescinded its action with respect to Dr. Passavant's offer, which had been found unsatisfactory. At the next meeting the corporate name was changed to The Augustana Hospital and Deaconess Institution.

During its first year of activity the hospital had a total of 35

patients, 18 being charity cases. Up to February, 1885, the totals of income and expenditure for the hospital balanced at about $3,500.

The Carlsson residence had been leased for three years from February, 1885, but the conference was desirous that property should be purchased for the growing institution. In October, 1886, in response to inquiries, Rev. Carlsson offered his property, consisting of the house and several lots at Lincoln and Cleveland avenues, for $35,000, agreeing to donate $1,000 of the amount. The offer was declined for the time being, and later four lots at Larrabee street and Belden avenue were purchased from a real estate agent for $12,000. By a singular coincidence the owner had simultaneously sold the same lots for $12,500 to another party, who came into possession. After several other futile attempts to acquire a suitable site, Rev. Carlsson's offer was accepted in February, 1887. He demanded payment in full by Feb. 23, 1889, and, after having raised $9,600 by means of a bazaar and other substantial amounts through subscriptions, and taken a loan of $20,000, the directors in May, 1890, paid off $14,176, thereby settling in full with Rev. Erland Carlsson.

In the spring of 1890, Drs. Miller and his assistants, Chew and Woodworth, having resigned, Dr. Charles T. Parkes was chosen physician and surgeon in chief and Dr. A. J. Ochsner attending physician and surgeon. Upon the death of Dr. Parkes one year later, Dr. Ochsner became chief of the medical staff.

About this time a donation of $5,000 was received from Henry Melohn, a Dane, the gift being in memory of his Swedish wife, for whom a ward in the hospital has been gratefully named. In 1890 115 patients were cared for and the accounts for the year showed an income of $8,326, exclusive of the $20,000 loan, and an expenditure of $31,072, including the last payment of the debt to Rev. Carlsson, $6,500 on redeemed notes and $5,400 to the bank.

In view of the urgent need of increasing the capacity of the institution the conference in 1891 empowered the board to erect a new building and called upon the members of the churches to provide the means by liberal subscriptions. The result was a disappointment, only a few thousand dollars coming in through that channel.

The interest of the women of the conference had been enlisted in this enterprise from the start, and about 1890 a ladies' board was organized in order to do more systematic and telling work in behalf of the institution and to superintend its household affairs. This board consisted of the following named ladies: Mrs. Emmy Evald, Mrs. M. C. Ranseen, Mrs. L. G. Abrahamson, Mrs. J. Blomgren, Mrs. E. Olson and Mrs. P. Johnson. Another agency doing efficient service for the

hospital was "The Good Samaritan," a Swedish quarterly, published in its behalf.

Undismayed by the lack of means, the board through its building committee proceeded to have a new building erected. Ground was broken Oct. 22, 1892, and on Feb. 12th the following winter the cornerstone was laid. The building, designed as a part of the future hospital structure, was to be 62 by 84 feet, 6 stories high, with basement, built of iron, brick and stone, at a cost of $85,000, and to provide room for 125 beds. A loan of $50,000 was taken and through a bazaar held in April, 1893, an additional $5,749 was realized. In the early fall the building was finished and its dedication took place Sept. 17th. At the end of the year the total resources were $122,390 and the liabilities $65,825.

The records for 1893 show 267 patients, providing an income of $5,668, but at this point, after the completion of the new building, a period of greater prosperity ensued. In 1895 the corresponding figures were 721 and $21,170, and the institution again began to be crowded for room. By housing the nurses in the old building and in rented quarters and by adding several wards, the capacity of the hospital was substantially increased. In 1897 the number of patients passed the thousand mark and three years later it reached 1,500.

In 1902 the board, being pressed for room to accommodate the ever increasing number of patients, recommended the completion of the hospital building according to the original plan. With the sanction of the conference the directors took the necessary steps but a bitter fight waged on those in control intervened, delaying building operations until late in the following year.

This fight ensued when in July, 1902, Dr. M. C. Ranseen was called as superintendent of the institution and Rev. Henry O. Lindeblad, who had acted as chaplain and solicitor since January, 1898, resigned, protesting that he had been called to that position and had in fact served as superintendent. To his grievance was added that of Dr. C. O. Young, since January, 1898, attending physician, who raised a variety of complaints. In December a special conference meeting was held, at which these grievances were aired for days in heated and acrimonious debate. The outcome was that Rev. Lindeblad obtained a nominal vindication, but without reinstatement. Dr. Young's connection with the hospital was severed by the board and Dr. Ranseen resigned the superintendency before having fully entered upon his new duties. The struggle seemed to accentuate the fact that capable management on the part of the board and the efficient service of Dr. Oehsner, a surgeon of high repute, have been the chief factors in the upbuilding and maintenance of the institution.

The storm over, building operations were begun in August, 1903, and about Dec. 1, 1904, the annexed structure was ready for occupancy, giving the hospital a total capacity of 220 beds. The additional structure, completing the building as originally planned, was finished at a cost of about $100,000.

In 1902 the debt on the old structure was wiped out, but on the new building a debt of $100,000 was incurred. This is being gradually reduced.

In 1894 a training school for nurses was opened, comprising a two years' course, and in 1896 the first class of trained nurses, eight in number, was graduated. This school heretofore has taken the place of the deaconess institute originally contemplated and implied in the corporate name.

In the natural course of development the Augustana Hospital has ceased to be an exclusive retreat for patients of a particular faith or nationality and become, as it is today, a hospital for the general public, pervaded, however, by the religious influences of the Swedish Lutheran Church.

The men who have remained longest on the board and given the institution the most efficient and faithful service in that capacity are: Dr. M. C. Ranseen, who has been on the board since 1882, with the exception of three years, 1902-5; Dr. C. A. Evald, from 1884 to the present; Dr. L. G. Abrahamson, from 1886 to the present; Samuel Anderson, 1890-94 and from 1898 to the present; Theodore Freeman, from 1892 to the present, and Rev. M. Frykman, from 1895 to the present.

The training school for nurses at present has an enrollment of 75. It is in charge of Miss Lila P. Pickhardt, the head nurse, and her assistant, Miss Johanna Nelson. The course now covers a period of three years and since the first graduation in 1896 177 nurses have received diplomas. A number of these hold positions of trust and responsibility in various hospitals.

In 1904 Rev. Dr. M. Wahlstrom, president of Gustavus Adolphus College, was called as superintendent. Having resigned his former position, he assumed his new office in September. With the duties of superintendent are combined those of chaplain of the institution.

The present hospital staff numbers sixteen physicians and surgeons, all of whom are either specialists or medical men of large experience. Besides these, seven internes and ten externes serve as assistants to the doctors in charge.

The growth of the institution in the last few years is indicated by these figures:

In 1904 1,739 patients were cared for and the income from paying

patients was $57,699. In 1905, after the completion of the building, the number of patients grew to 2,205 and the income from that source to $80,394. The corresponding figures for the year 1906 were, 2,353 patients and cash from patients, $96,752.

Since the founding of the hospital its principal support, aside from current income, has been derived from the following sources: church bazaars, more than $35,000; donations and legacies about $80,000, the largest amount willed to the institution being $20,000 from Thomas D. Lowther. In the first quarter century of its existence, the total earnings of the hospital through the treatment and care of patients foot up to about half a million dollars.

The Orphans' Home at Andover

Three years after its organization the Augustana Synod took up the question of founding a home where poor orphans might be cared for and given a Christian bringing up. The decision to establish such an institution was reached at the Chicago convention of the synod in 1863. A committee of five was appointed to solicit funds, purchase land near Paxton and carry out the plan. Within the next two years $3,000 were raised and a 160 acre farm was purchased for $3,520. Cultivation of the land had begun when in 1867 the orphanage committee was instructed to sell this farm, secure a more favorable location for the proposed home near Andover or Swedona and open the institution, if practicable, in the fall of the same year. As a temporary arrangement a two story house, 18 by 28 feet, was erected on an acre lot near Swedona and the home was opened at the time designated, with S. P. Lindell and wife in charge. During the first year they had three wards under their care. In 1870 a farm two miles from Andover was purchased for $5,150. Here the orphanage was permanently located shortly afterward. Additional land purchases were made until the farm comprised 440 acres, valued at over $40,000. In 1902 the total property value was $47,930, but the institution was burdened with a debt of $11,000.

At its Jamestown convention in 1876 the Augustana Synod turned the establishment over to the Illinois Conference, which from that time has been responsible for its administration. When the exigencies required the building of a schoolhouse the Sunday schools were appealed to for the funds needed. The response was generous, and from that time the home has had a substantial annual income from the mites contributed by and through the Sunday school pupils in a similar manner. By 1880 the number of children at the home had reached 40, overtaxing the house first erected, wherefore a new building was put up the following year, costing $3,364. In 1902 an annex

was added at a cost of $7,746, a building strictly modern in construction and equipment.

Mr. Lindell served as superintendent of the home until his death in 1881. His successor was J. S. Swenson, who served for eight years. Thereafter frequent changes in the management have taken place. The



Orphans' Home, Andover

control of the institution is vested in a board of nine directors chosen by the Illinois Conference. The number of orphans in the care of the home is about seventy, and its present superintendent is Rev. A. G. Ander. The annual disbursements for the home, according to a late report, aggregate $8,000 and the net present worth exceeds $43,000.

The Orphans' Home and Industrial School at Joliet

In 1887 the Illinois Conference, after having found the Andover orphans' home inadequate to the growing needs, took preliminary steps toward increasing its facilities for taking care of the helpless young. A committee then appointed reported at the following annual meeting, submitting a plan, whereupon the conference resolved to found a second orphanage and instructed the committee to select a suitable site. In 1889, at the annual conference in Joliet, it was proposed to locate the new orphans' home within the territory of either the Chicago or the



Orphans' Home, Joliet

Rockford district, whose respective churches were asked to submit offers for securing the institution in their immediate neighborhood. No definite offers were submitted until 1891, when an advantageous bid was reported from Joliet. It was then resolved to locate the home at Joliet and put up a $15,000 building, $8,000 having been pledged by the city, the remainder to be raised within the conference.

A set of seven directors now elected reported progress at the annual meeting of 1892. Work on the new building had been begun, and on the 9th of August following, the corner-stone was laid by Dr. L. G. Abrahamson, president of the conference. On May 26, 1896, the building having been completed by slow stages, according as the means could be raised, the institution was dedicated to its purpose under the corporate name of The Orphan Home and Industrial School of the

Illinois Conference of the Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Augustana Synod. On Feb. 11th, a few months prior, it had been opened for the reception of wards. Sister Frida Schelander, who had been trained at the Swedish Lutheran Deaconess Institute in Omaha, was secured as superintendent of the home. During the first year she had 22 orphans under her care. The number has since grown to nearly one hundred. The full capacity being already taxed, the directors are constrained to refuse a large number of applications for admission every year.

The home is pleasantly situated in a parklike spot a short distance outside the city of Joliet, with which it has excellent connections by means of a street-railway line and a good driveway.

The treasurer's report of 1907 shows disbursements for current expenses for the year last past aggregating $8,000. From partly paying inmates the home had an income of $2,000. The grounds of the institution are valued at $25,000 and the total net worth is about $30,000.

The Salem Home for the Aged at Joliet

The Salem Home, at Joliet, Ill., which is an old age retreat for the worthy poor among the Swedish Lutherans, is the most recent charitable institution established by the Illinois Conference. In 1903 the need of such a home was officially recognized by the conference in the appointment of a committee to solicit funds and prepare tentative plans, and to report to the conference at the subsequent meeting. Certain property was offered by parties in Chicago on condition that the institution be located in that city, and other conditional donations were promised. As locations were suggested Joliet and West Irving Park, Chicago. This being reported, the conference in 1904 definitely decided that an old people's home should be established, but left it with another committee to propose the location and continue the preparatory work. The following year it was resolved to locate the new institution adjacent to the orphans' home in Joliet, on ground belonging thereto. By February, 1906, some three thousand dollars had been raised and the committee in charge accepted plans for the proposed building, a two-story building with basement, 30 by 86 feet, to contain thirty rooms. The corner-stone was laid on May 6, 1906, during the conference meeting held that year at Joliet. A permanent board of directors was elected, with instructions to complete the building at an added cost not to exceed $12,000, and to prosecute the work of soliciting funds so that the institution should, if possible, be completed without debt. In the fall of 1906, the exterior of the building was completed, the total cost so far being $9,500. In May, 1907, the conference authorized the board to take a loan of $5,000 in order to complete the interior and put the building in condition for

occupancy without further delay, and early in the present year the Salem Home welcomed its first inmates. By resolution of the conference in May, 1908, the home for the aged and the orphanage were placed under one board of management. The object of the institution is to provide and maintain a Christian home for worthy old people, with preference given to members of the Illinois Conference.

The Augustana Synod

The relation existing between the Illinois (Mississippi) Conference and the Augustana Synod, of which it is now but a part, reminds one of the adage, "The child is father of the man," for the greater of these bodies is virtually the product of the smaller.

Pursuant to a resolution passed at the common convention of the Chicago and Mississippi Conferences in Chicago, the Scandinavian Evangelical Lutheran Augustana Synod of North America was organized June 5, 1860, at a meeting held in the Norwegian Lutheran Church of Jefferson Prairie, Rock county, Wisconsin. Delegates were present from the aforesaid conferences and from the Minnesota Conference, forty all told. The numerical strength of the new organization at the time is shown by the following figures: Swedish—36 congregations, 3,753 communicants, 17 ministers; Norwegian—13 congregations, 1,220 communicants, 10 ministers, making a total of 49 congregations, 4,967 communicants and 27 ministers. There were 21 Swedish and 8 Norwegian church edifices.

The next synodical convention of great importance was that of 1870, at Andover. After having worked together in harmony for a decade, the Swedish and Norwegian brethren now decided upon a friendly separation. The growth of the synod and the complexity of work seemed to both sides to demand such a step, while all were agreed that the union had lent strength to the synod in its early stages. In the official name of the Augustana Synod the word "Swedish" was substituted for "Scandinavian," and the new body was named the Norwegian-Danish Augustana Synod. To preserve amicable relations between the sister synods it was resolved that each send representatives to the conventions of the other; that neither should admit ministers or congregations to membership except by mutual agreement, and that in places where the Scandinavians were few in number all be recommended to join one local church, be it Swedish or Norwegian. At this convention also was adopted a constitution for the congregations in all its essentials corresponding to the one adopted by the Chicago and Mississippi conferences in 1857.

The progress made during the past ten years was shown in figures, as follows: congregations—Swedish, 99, Norwegian, 30, mixed, 13,

total, 152; communicants—Swedish, 16,376, Norwegian, 1,784, total, 18,160; general membership—Swedish, 26,322, Norwegian, 2,880, total, 30,555; church edifices, 76 in all; ministers—Swedish, 46, Norwegian 27, total, 73.

In 1870 three new conferences were organized as integral parts of the synod. This meant a decentralization of power and entailed a change in the plan of operation, so much of the authority of the synod being vested in the subordinate bodies as almost to make them co-ordinated district synods. Prior to this, all mission work was in the hands of a central mission board, and the various institutions were under synodical control, but after the change in the direction of Congregationalism the bulk of the mission work was left to the conferences, as were also existing educational and charitable institutions, except Augustana College and Theological Seminary, together with authority to establish and maintain new ones, and sole responsibility for the same; the power of exercising church discipline as well as the duty of installing pastors and dedicating churches was transferred from the synodical to the conference officials, the right of ordination alone being reserved by the synod. The real or apparent need of these constitutional changes lay in the growth of the synod far beyond the bounds of expectation and the local needs arising from changing conditions. The loss by the separation in 1870 was more than made up by the organization of the three new subdivisions, the Iowa, Kansas and New York conferences.

The growth and activity of the synod will appear from the following concentrated statistics, exclusive of the Norwegian element of the first decade:

Statistics of the Augustana Synod, 1860—1906

Year	Ministers	Congregations	Church B'ld'gs	Communicants	Total Membership	General Contributions	Local Expenditures	Total Disbursements
1860	17	36	21	3,753	Not Known	$ 622	$ 8,549	$ 9,171
1870	46	99	51	16,376	26,322	7,381	124,707	132,088
1880	147	332	226	41,976	74,710	36,757	217,155	253,912
1890	325	637	499	84,583	145,593	75,497	552,986	628,483
1900	449	921	781	121,446	201,100	154,887	794,977	949,864
1906	558	1,049	903	154,390	243,795	212,190	1,338,193	1,550,383

The synod has sixteen benevolent institutions worth, less debts, $570,000, and nine educational institutions whose net present worth aggregates $825,000. Two schools have been discontinued, namely,

Hope Academy, located at Moorhead, Minn., and Martin Luther College, at Chicago. The total value of church property, according to the statistics for 1906, was $7,290,162, and debt on same was $849,682, showing a net worth of $6,440,480.

The Augustana Synod now comprises eight conferences, the Nebraska Conference having been organized in 1886, and the Columbia and California conferences in 1893. In addition, mission work is carried on in three large districts, known as the Utah, Montana and Alabama mission districts. Rounding out the figures, we find that in a period of fifty years the Swedish Lutheran Church of America grew to one thousand congregations, served by five hundred ministers, and that this church body now contributes annually more than one and one-half million dollars to Christian work.



CHAPTER IX

The Swedish Baptist Church

Earliest Known Swedish Baptists

INDIVIDUAL Swedish Baptists are known to have lived and labored in the United States long before any Baptist church of the Swedish nationality was organized here or in the old country. As they were affiliated with the general Baptist congregations in the localities where they happened to live, there is no special record of them, except as they asserted themselves through religious activity. The first of whom we have any record was one Robert Nordin. In their writings on Swedish Baptist history A. G. Hall and G. W. Schroeder make no reference to him, but from other sources we learn that he came over from England to West Virginia as early as 1714 and there preached the gospel until his death in 1735. The second of these isolated Swedish Baptists to be historically traced is John Asplund. A Swede by birth, he went to England in 1775 and served in the British navy, deserting which he came over to North Carolina. There he joined the church at Ballard's Bridge, and soon afterward removed to Southampton county, where he was ordained. More than a century ago, when Washington served his first term as president of the United States, Asplund traveled seven thousand miles in eighteen months, mostly on foot, through all the states and territories of the newly formed Union, collecting facts and statistics of the American Baptist churches, which he first published in a yearbook in 1790. This work, entitled the "Baptist Register," and forming an invaluable record of the Baptist denomination for that period, was afterwards issued in revised editions for several years in succession, up to and including 1794. Of his first published register or yearbook only two copies are known to be in existence, and copies of those for the following years are very rare. The two original copies are preserved in the archives of Colgate University. John Asplund lived for many years in the city of New York, where he labored assiduously in behalf of the church. He settled lastly in Maryland, and met his death in Virginia in 1807, being accidentally drowned in attempting to cross Fish Creek.

For almost forty years following the death of John Asplund, we have no record of any Swedish Baptist, until Gustavus W. Schroeder, then a sailor before the mast and later a sea-captain, was baptized in New York City. "When I became a Baptist," says Captain Schroeder in his memoirs, "I did not know of the existence of another Swedish Baptist in the whole world." The erroneous supposition that he was the first Swedish Baptist known, Schroeder himself corrects by reference to the aforementioned John Asplund.

Gustavus W. Schroeder, while on a voyage from New York to New Orleans, was converted in April, 1844, through Methodist agencies, in the latter city. His purpose was to join a Methodist church in New York after his return from a subsequent voyage to England. In the meantime, the articles of faith and practice issued from the Baptist Seamen's Bethel in New York won him over to the views therein expressed, and on Nov. 3, 1844, he was baptized in East River, near Corlear's Hook, and became a member of the Seamen's Bethel, subsequently known as the First Baptist Mariners' Church, and its house of worship as the Mariners' Temple. In 1894, fifty years later, the Swedish Baptist Church of New York celebrated the third of November as a day of jubilee, in commemoration of the event. Schroeder, although brought in touch quite extensively with the Swedish Baptists, both in this country and in Sweden, has remained almost continuously a member of the American Baptist Church.

Prior to 1853, probably for a number of years, one John Åkerblom, a well to do Swede, was a deacon and an influential member of the First Baptist Church of Detroit, Michigan. A Swedish nobleman, one Count Piper, and a daughter of Katharina Broberg, one of Sweden's pioneer Baptists, both were members of American Baptist churches in New York at an early date. Captain Schroeder states that, having become a Christian, his first desire was to go to Sweden to make known his new religious views among relatives and friends; but heretofore no one of these pioneer Swedish Baptists, as far as known, had undertaken to labor especially among their own countrymen.

The founder of the first Swedish Baptist church in America was still to come. This was Gustaf Palmquist, a former schoolmaster, who came over in 1851 and joined the American Baptist Church in Galesburg the year following. He was soon after engaged by the American Baptist Home Missionary Society to missionate among his fellow-countrymen and was instrumental in organizing at Rock Island, Ill., the first Swedish Baptist church in the United States. The first Baptist church on Swedish soil had been organized just four years prior, and Palmquist had inclined to Baptist views before emigrating. Five days after the organization of the Rock Island church Rev. Anders Wiberg,

who had left the ministry of the Lutheran state church of Sweden and embraced the Baptist faith, landed in New York and there labored among his countrymen for eight months, but without building up a separate congregation, the converts being brought into the fold of the Mariners' Church. This church is notable in the history of the Swedish Baptists for having mothered two of their eminent pioneers and leaders, namely Capt. Schroeder and Dr. J. A. Edgren, while Col. Broady prominent in the work in Sweden, was originally a member of the Tabernacle church in the same city.

Pioneer Work in Sweden

In most cases the Swedish-American religious denominations have been transplanted from Sweden to America, but in the case of the Baptists the order was reversed, inasmuch as the seed from which sprung the Baptist Church in Sweden was sown first by Schroeder, followed by a number of other workers, who had embraced the Baptist faith in this country or had labored here for greater or less periods.

Schroeder's desire to preach Baptism in Sweden was soon realized. In May, 1845, a few months after his conversion and baptism in the United States, he started for Sweden and arrived a month later in Göteborg. After the home salutations were over, his first call was on Fredrik Olaus Nilson, the American Seamen's Friend Society's missionary in that city, to whom, in their first interview, he related how he had become a Baptist. The following Sunday Nilson and his wife were invited to Schroeder's old home, four miles from the city, for private worship. Nilson preached to a small gathering of friends and neighbors, and after the close of the services proper, Schroeder spoke to the gathering about the doctrines and practices of the Baptists. Thus, in his childhood home, Schroeder was the first to expound Baptist doctrines publicly in Sweden. Schroeder also visited Stockholm and northern Sweden, meeting with groups of Pietists and dissenters, but refraining, according to his own statement, from proselyting among them.

In 1843, two years prior to Schroeder's visit, a Danish Baptist preacher named Ryding had visited the village of Mala in southern Sweden, where lived a single Baptist who had been converted and baptized in Copenhagen. Ryding had come intent on preaching, but encountering bitter public prejudice he confined himself to operations strictly private. He was soon compelled to return home, and the lone convert emigrated to America to escape persecution.

Schroeder left for Hamburg without any direct attempt to win Nilson over from Methodism, which he professed, but his conversations and certain tracts sent from that city convinced Nilson on the subject

of baptism so that he himself went to Hamburg where he obtained further instruction by J. G. Oncken, a pioneer German Baptist preacher, and was baptized by him in the river Elbe Aug. 1, 1847. As between emigrating to America, where he might worship and preach according to the dictates of his own conscience, and remaining in Sweden to propagate Baptism in the face of persecution, Nilson chose the latter. After one year the Hamburg church sent A. P. Förster, a Danish preacher, to assist him, and by united effort they organized the first Baptist church in Sweden. This took place in the house of Bernt Nikolaus Nilson in Landa parish, province of Halland, Sept. 21, 1848. The members were six in number, including Nilson, five other persons having been baptized in the sea, near Göteborg, by Rev. Förster, under cover of darkness the night before. The ceremony took place at Ullervik, and those baptized where Nilson's wife Sofia, his brothers Sven Christian and Bernt Nikolaus, Andreas Wrång and Abraham Anderson. Sven Christian Nilson, who was the first to be immersed, like his brother Fredrik had been in the United States, where both were converted among the Methodists. He emigrated and in 1898 was still living in Wastedo, Minn. His was the first baptism by immersion that took place in Sweden, the foregoing adherents of the movement having been baptized in Copenhagen or Hamburg.

The Swedish Baptist Church of Rock Island

Of the origin of the Swedish Baptist Church of Rock Island, the mother church of the Swedish-American Baptists, there is but meager information available. It appears that a few members of a party of so-called "Hedbergians," who came over from Sweden in 1850, located in Rock Island and Moline. Among these people Gustaf Palmquist was in good repute in Sweden and he came to America for the specific purpose of serving as their pastor. Upon his arrival he found his intended parishioners widely scattered, and when, after joining the American Baptist Church in Galesburg, he was made missionary to the Swedish settlements, it was most natural for him to turn first to this little group. He soon won them over to his views, and Rock Island thus became in the summer of 1852 the starting-point for the propagation of the Baptist doctrine among the Swedish people. He brought in his first sheaves from the new harvest field on the 8th day of August, when three persons were baptized by him, one of whom, Peter Söderström, had been a member of the Swedish Lutheran Church of Moline. On the thirteenth of the same month* a church was formally organized. Its first members are said to have been six in number, to-wit: A.

* The date, also given as Sept. 13th and Sept. 26th, cannot be definitely fixed owing to the absence of church records.

Theodor Mankee (also written Mankie), A. Boberg, Fredrika Boberg, Peter Söderström, Karl Johanson (Charles Johnson) and Anders Norelius. The organizer and first pastor of this flock was Palmquist, who, from the absence of his name on the list, appears to have retained his membership of the Galesburg church. After eight months the new church was officially recognized by a council of delegates from American churches, who met in Rock Island May 5, 1853, when Rev. Anders Wiberg of Sweden also was present, having came on a visit to this country shortly before. The church now numbered thirteen members, all of whom are said to have been baptized by Palmquist. The additional members as recorded were: Charles Håkanson, John Asp, G. H. Peterson, Hans Smith, formerly of the Moline Lutheran church, Hans Mattson, Margreta Peterson and Maria Johnson. A number of the members lived in Moline. In his published memoirs Col. Hans Mattson makes incidental mention of his connection with these people early in the year 1853.* But that he was one of the original members of the church would nevertheless seem uncertain in view of the fact that he became one of the first members of the Lutheran church organized at Vasa, Minn., in 1855, and that there was among the earliest Swedish Baptists another person of the same name, who is said to have preached in Altona about 1858.

A revival followed, bringing the membership up to fifty, and in the summer of 1853 Fredrik Olaus Nilson, a pioneer Baptist preacher of Sweden, arrived with a small number of followers of whom three families from Berghem parish located in Moline and joined the Rock Island church.

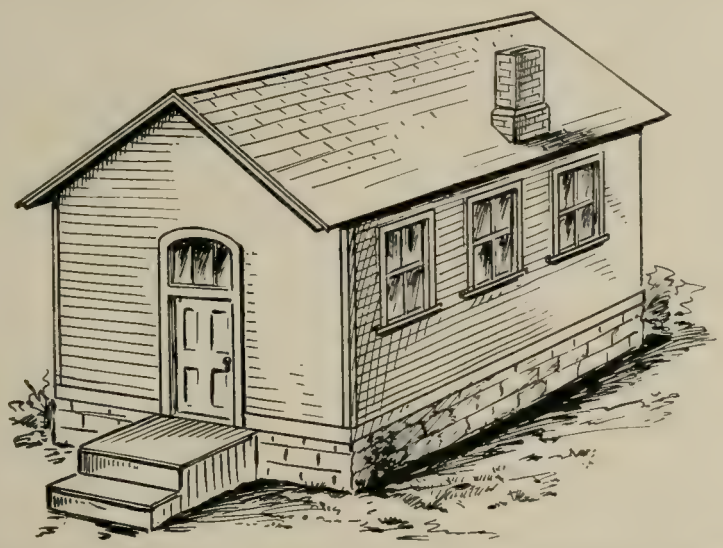
With the support of the American Baptist Home Missionary Society, Rev. Palmquist was pastor of the church up to August, 1857, but divided his time between his pastoral duties and mission work in Iowa and Minnesota, also in Chicago and New York during the last two years.

Rev. Palmquist was succeeded by Anders Norelius, who had pastoral charge until April, 1858. The pulpit was now vacant until the fall of 1859, when F. O. Nilson became pastor in Rock Island, remaining for six months, until his return to Sweden. After that the church had no regular pastor till the fall of 1862, when L. L. Frisk was stationed there. Owing to lack of pastors and consequent neglect of

*Forming a bit of the history of this church, Mattson's reference is here quoted: "Dr. and Mrs. Ober (who had befriended Mattson) were deeply religious people and members of the Baptist Church; and as I was now under their influence and soon came in contact with Gustaf Palmquist, the Swedish Baptist preacher, and the handful of people who formed the core of the first Swedish Baptist Church in America, I became one of their circle before spring and doubtless would have remained one of them to this day, but for the fact that circumstances over which I had no control brought me into different environments and another field of activity. That same winter Rev. Wiberg of Stockholm visited Moline, when I likewise formed his acquaintance." (Minnen, p. 36.)

its interests this first church did not attain noteworthy growth, its membership remaining at a standstill for many years. In 1864 the total was but 72, showing little increase since 1853.

A period of prosperity for the church came in the seventies, while Rev. Olof Lindh was in charge. Lindh came there in the winter of 1870 on a preaching tour and in July located in Moline, intent on leaving the ministry to engage in ordinary employment. He was requested to put this off until the local church had held its monthly meeting, when he was elected its pastor. The Rock Island-Moline church was at this time the largest in the denomination, numbering as it did about 125



The Rock Island Church—First Swedish Baptist House of Worship in America

members. Lindh preached here for several years with but indifferent success. But early in 1873 a revival was inaugurated which brought large numbers into the fold. The church grew to a membership of 200, notwithstanding many removals, and a hundred or more converts should be credited to Rev. Lindh's efforts.

After six years of service Lindh contemplated leaving to return to Sweden. His ultimate determination so to do led indirectly to an amicable division of the flock and the organization of the Moline contingent into a distinct church. For many years past they had had a house of worship in Moline, where meetings were regularly held. The increase had been greatest among the Moline members, and they now felt able to support their own pastor. When the Moline church was organized, some seventy-five persons joined at once, depleting the ranks of the mother church, and leaving it with a membership about

the same as in 1870. The younger church wished to retain Lindh as pastor, but he was fixed in his resolve to leave for the old country and at his suggestion Rev. Olaus Ockerson was called. During the six years Lindh was in charge the Rock Island church flourished more than at any time before or afterwards. While the daughter has grown ever stronger, the mother has been on the decline, and according to the statistics of 1907 the Rock Island church numbered but 36 members.

The church was without a house of worship during the first five years of its existence. In 1857 a small edifice was erected, seating 70 persons. It was a very ordinary frame building, remarkable in no other respect than this that it was the first house of worship erected by Swedish Baptists in the United States. The present church property is valued at $5,000.

The Moline church is in a flourishing condition, with 234 members at the last accounting and owning a church edifice valued at $15,875, seating 500, and a parsonage worth $3,000. Rev. Detlof Löfström is the present pastor, having served since 1905.

The Swedish Baptists of Galesburg

The Baptist movement in Galesburg in 1852 was not without effect upon the Swedish people there, but those among them who, like Palmquist, embraced that faith, apparently joined the American church, and no Swedish church was organized at the time. Not until five years later was such a step taken, when, in 1857, seven persons met and organized a Swedish Baptist church. Among them was one Ahnberg. In the fall of the same year all but Ahnberg removed to Altona, whereby the original church organization in Galesburg was dissolved. L. L. Frisk served as their pastor in both places. Galesburg, however, was for a time the headquarters of the Baptist propaganda, inasmuch as from that city were published two newspapers in the interest of the church, first, "Frihetsvännen," then "Evangelisten," both engaged in hot controversy with the Lutheran paper "Hemlandet." Of the status of local church work during this period little is positively known. The fact is that a small group there continued without an organization until 1869, when Rev. Lindh, then traveling missionary, and Rev. Rundquist, then stationed in Altona, met in Galesburg and organized a church, the second in order in that place. A young preacher named Hamilton was chosen pastor, superseding Rev. Lidén, who had preached in Galesburg and vicinity for a long time. They held their initial public services in the American Baptist church, when two persons were baptized, making ten or twelve members all told. This church organization went the way of the first, being broken up after some time.

A third organization was formed in 1879 or 1880 by Rev. C. Silene, from new material and possibly the remnants of the former church. Even this did not attain permanence, and in 1888, for the fourth time, the Swedish Baptists in Galesburg went through the forms of organizing. The church then formed has endured to the present day. Rev. P. E. Sörbom has served this church during the past five years. The latest statistics give it a membership of 89. The Altona church, which sprung from the first one in Galesburg, is still on the records of the denomination and was credited with 13 members in the year 1907.

General Organization of Early Churches

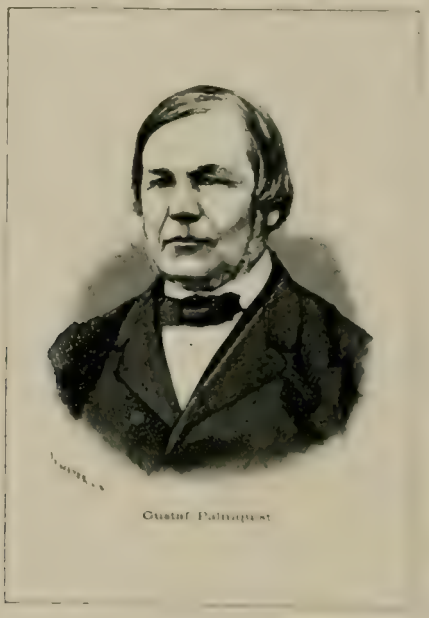
During the period of 1852 to 1864 there were organized in Illinois, Iowa and Minnesota fourteen churches, three of which had been disrupted prior to the latter year. The oldest churches outside of Illinois which still survive are: Village Creek, Ia., organized 1853; Stratford, Ia., 1856; Scandia, Minn., 1855.

In 1856 the first step toward organic union of the Swedish Baptist churches was taken through the holding of a conference, June 20th to 25th, at Rock Island. Gustaf Palmquist presided and A. Norelius acted as secretary. Nine churches were represented, those of Rock Island and Chicago, Allamakee and New Sweden, Ia., Root River (or Houston), St. Paul, Clear Water Lake and Chisago Lake, Minn., and New York City. There were reports on the work in the various fields, but this and several successive conferences met and adjourned without effecting a permanent organization. Little interest was shown in these meetings. Of the first six, all but two were held at Rock Island, and at the sixth conference but one church besides the local one was represented. No conferences took place in 1861 and 1863. At a meeting, the seventh in order, held at Village Creek, Ia., June 16-18, 1864, the Illinois-Iowa Conference was formally organized.

With those of his followers who did not remain in Moline and Rock Island F. O. Nilson proceeded to Iowa and thence to Minnesota, where they formed the nucleus of a church in Houston. Nilson preached in various localities between Houston and St. Paul and three other congregations sprung up which on Sept. 18, 1858, were organized into a conference of their own. The churches were at Houston, Scandia, Wastedo and Chisago Lake and their pastors were Nilson and Norelius. In July, 1860, the Rock Island congregation in a circular letter to the sister churches submitted the question whether the general conference should be continued and how, indicating that, although Nilson had been present at the preceding annual conference at Rock Island, the brethren there were still ignorant of the existence of the Minnesota Conference.

Swedish Baptist Founders and Leaders Rev. Gustaf Palmquist

Gustaf Palmquist, the pioneer Swedish Baptist preacher in the state of Illinois and the West, was born in Solberga parish, Smaland, May 26, 1812. At the age of six he lost his father through death. His mother, who was converted at the deathbed of one of her sons, gave the remaining six children a Christian training, resulting in their conversion, Gustaf last of all. In 1839 he obtained a situation as school-teacher in Filipstad and later held a like position at Gustafsberg, near Stockholm. After his conversion he began evangelizing among his pupils and in the tenements and prison cells of the capital.



Rev. Gustaf Palmquist

In 1850 a group of Pietists in Norrland, known variously as "Luther-Readers" and "Hedbergians," prepared to emigrate in order to secure greater liberty of worship than was accorded them in the state church, with which they were dissatisfied also on doctrinal grounds. In the United States they intended to form a genuine Lutheran congregation. They wished to secure a minister on whose doctrinal soundness they could depend and asked Rev. Anders Wiberg, then a clergyman of the state church, to accompany them to America as their spiritual teacher. Himself unable to accept the call, Wiberg suggested Palmquist, who agreed to come over the following year. Upon their arrival, these people were scattered to the four winds, and when Palmquist came, in August, 1851, he did not meet one of their number for

several months. Some had located in Princeton, others in Rock Island and Moline, still others in Andover and vicinity, and some time after a few went to McGregor, Ia. The only one of the party who stuck to the original plan was Per Anderson from Hassela, Helsingland, who in the spring of 1851 went to Minnesota and founded the Chisago Lake settlement.

According to his own statement Palmquist in 1845 and thereafter had his belief in infant baptism shaken by the study of the Bible, church history and the writings of Luther, Martensen, Pengilly, Hinton and others, and by conversations with Nilson of Göteborg and Johans-



The Present Swedish Baptist Church of Galesburg

son of Hull. On all other doctrinal points he considered himself a sound Lutheran, and his new position did not ripen into full conviction and open profession until 1852.

Palmquist came to Andover in the fall of 1851 and remained there a short time. His situation was rather cheerless, and while he was debating with himself whether to join the Swedish Lutherans or not, Rev. Esbjörn suggested that he go to Galesburg to preach to the people under his spiritual care, which he did, remaining in charge over winter. In the spring he made a trip north, visiting Lansing, Ia., St. Paul, Stillwater and other points in Minnesota with a view to locating somewhere as a preacher, but finding his countrymen few and living far apart, he returned to Illinois. During a Baptist revival at Galesburg he now took the decisive step, and was baptized June 27th, joining

the American Baptist Church. He severed his connection with the Lutherans of Galesburg in rather dramatic fashion by calling his former flock together as if to rejoice over the step he had taken. In July he was assigned as Baptist missionary among the Swedish settlers in the surrounding territory. Work was taken up at Rock Island, resulting in the organization of a small church there in the late summer. Palmquist became its pastor. During his six years of service he spent much time in the mission field in Illinois, Iowa and Minnesota, planting new churches wherever practicable.

In August, 1857, Rev. Palmquist went back to Sweden to aid in the work started there under American auspices by Rev. Anders Wiberg in the fall of 1855. Before leaving, he gave the following statement of the number of Swedish Baptists in the United States: Rock Island, 45; Chicago, 25; New Sweden, Ia., 13; Boone county, Ia., 25; Allamakee county, Ia., 45; Scandia, Minn., 45; Chisago Lake, Minn., 20; Houston county, Minn., 17; Red Wing, Minn., 11; besides, there were 26 Swedish Baptists affiliated with American churches, viz., in New York City, 14, in Galesburg, 8, and in Keokuk, Ia., 4, making a total of 272. The predominance of the figure 5 in Palmquist's statement indicates an estimate. It should be noted that Palmquist visited and labored in most, if not all, of the places named, and that a goodly share of the result must be credited to his endeavors.

In Sweden he found a large field. The cities of Stockholm, Örebro and Sundsvall were given into his charge and, besides, he made extensive missionary trips throughout the country. In both Stockholm and Örebro he conducted private schools for the training of lay preachers. After ten years of faithful labor in Sweden, where his success was greater and the growth of the denomination more rapid than in its early stages in this country, Rev. Palmquist passed away Sept. 18, 1867, at 55 years of age. Of Palmquist's sermons, which are said to have been of the old-fashioned, pithy and powerful variety, none have been preserved, but as a writer of religious verse he has left a rich heritage to his church. He combined poetic genius with musical talent, and wrote many of the gospel hymns found in a collection entitled "Pilgrimssånger," first published in 1859.

Rev. Anders Wiberg

Rev. Wiberg is one of the fathers of the Baptist movement among the Swedish people on both sides of the Atlantic. His biography contains much interesting history.

Anders Wiberg was born in Tuna parish, near the city of Hudiksvall, Sweden, July 17, 1816. His parents were farmers. In his childhood he had some religious impressions. In his early youth he attended

a so-called Lancaster school. When about fourteen years old, he was near being drowned, but was saved as by a miracle. In consequence he became anxious for the salvation of his soul and began to read the Bible and other religious books, among which was "The Holy War," by Bunyan. He was at that time a shopkeeper's clerk in Hudiksvall, but had an ardent desire to study and become useful in God's kingdom. For a year he was under the guidance of a pious country clergyman in the home of the latter, then pursued his studies at the Hudiksvall elementary school under a more learned, but ungodly teacher, and now yielded to worldly influences. In 1833-5 he attended the Gefle gym-



Rev. Anders Wiberg

nasium, from which, after his college graduation, he entered Upsala University. There he maintained himself by private tutorship in the homes of the gentry. During his four years at the seat of learning he became, from associations and from the nature of his studies, an infidel. At the end of this period, however, he reached the turning-point in his life and became a devout believer.

In 1843 he became a minister of the state church, after a course in theology, during which he made diligent research of religious writings, particularly those of the German mystics. He was now stationed at different places as assistant to aged clergymen, and was permitted to see the fruitage of his preaching. Scruples soon arose in his mind about admitting the ungodly to communion. Having obtained from the Upsala consistory leave of absence from duty, he was occupied

for two years translating and publishing certain works of Luther and in editing a church paper, called "Evangelisten."

In the spring of 1851 Wiberg went from Stockholm, where he then resided, to Hamburg in company with a friend, to act as his interpreter. At Hamburg he visited the Baptist church and formed the acquaintance of Oncken and Köbner and other Baptist preachers. The constitution, discipline and the pious spiritual life which he discovered in this church appealed to him and he thought he saw in them the true apostolic order. To their doctrine of baptism, however, he could not assent. After warm disputes with the pastors named, he left them without being convinced of the error of infant baptism. On his way home, he read Pengilly's treatise on baptism, by which his faith in the Lutheran tenets was somewhat shaken. Later he eagerly studied Hinton's "History of Baptism," but it was long before he could be fully persuaded.

Before he visited Germany, a number of Christians in northern Sweden, who had conscientious scruples against the state church, but put confidence in Wiberg as an evangelical minister, had requested him to sever his connection with the state church and become their pastor. He was about to comply with their request when he became acquainted with the Baptists and their teachings. After that he sent them word about his change of views, stating that as he was about to become a Baptist, he could not sprinkle their children and minister to them in the way they had thought. Shocked and amazed, they knew not what to make of the matter, but wrote to Rev. Hedberg of Finland, a man of learning and highly esteemed among them, for advice. He replied by drawing a very dark picture of the Anabaptists, and making Wiberg out as a noxious heretic and an apostate. Wiberg endeavored to convince his friends of his biblical position, but without success. At length, he promised them that he would write a book on the subject. Not being as yet fully persuaded, but believing the truth to lie on the side of the Baptists, he set to work on the book. Needing help and advice on many points, he wrote F. O. Nilson, who sent him Dr. Carson's work, "Baptism in Its Mode and Subjects," and also several tracts. Having studied these and compared the arguments with passages in the Greek New Testament, he finally became fully satisfied on all matters pertaining to the question of baptism. His own work on the subject was completed before he left Sweden for America, and was left in the hands of the printer.

Soon after his return from Hamburg, Wiberg lay dangerously ill for about three months. During his convalescence he wrote to the consistory requesting his dismission from the state church. Before that tribunal he had been twice summoned to answer to the charge of

affiliating with the separatists in Northern Sweden. The first time, after long and heated disputes with several members of the consistory, he was suspended from the ministry for three months for nonconformity. The second time, his accuser, a dean in the city of Hudiksvall, urged that Wiberg should be banished. The latter appealed from the ecclesiastical to the civil power, but in the meantime his accuser and persecutor, a man of learning and ripe age, put an end to his own life by hanging.

Having regained strength, Wiberg began to preach in public, but the clergy sought to prevent these assemblages, and twice the lord mayor of Stockholm forbade the meetings.

Still infirm, Wiberg was advised by his physician to take a sea voyage as the best means of regaining strength. Several of his friends in Stockholm were just then building a vessel for carrying emigrants to the United States. He applied for and obtained free passage, much to his satisfaction, as he greatly desired to go anywhere out of Sweden to be baptized, but lacked the means. The vessel sailed from Stockholm July 17th. At Copenhagen the vessel was delayed by head winds for two days. Here he met Rev. F. O. Nilson, who was in exile, and by him was immersed in the sea at 11 o'clock in the evening of July 23rd, in the presence of many brethren and sisters.

The ship arrived in New York harbor on Sept. 18th. With a letter from Nilson recommending that Wiberg he employed by the American Baptists as a missionary in Sweden, he sought Rev. Steward of the Mariners' Church. Shortly afterward he gave an account of himself, substantially as here narrated, in the Olive Street Church, before an audience met to hear the annual report of the New York Baptist Female Bethel Union. Having been given a cordial public welcome, Wiberg was soon employed by the Mariners' Church as colporteur and missionary among the Scandinavian immigrants and seamen. He was the first Swedish Baptist home missionary in New York and the East. Having united with the church, he was ordained March 3, 1853, as a regular Baptist minister. In the summer of the same year the American Baptist Publication Society of Philadelphia invited him to come there and prepare his work on baptism, and when ready a large number of copies were sent over to Sweden and there distributed.

This work, entitled, "Det kristliga dopet," was published in Philadelphia in 1854. It is a duodecimo volume of 288 pages. A pamphlet of 36 pages by Wiberg, entitled "Är du döpt?" was published the following year by the same society. These are the first known Baptist publications in the Swedish language in this country.

Next to the banishment of Nilson, the fact that Wiberg, a devout man and a scholar, had left the established church with all its allure-

ments of comfortable living, promotion and honors, to cast his lot with the despised and persecuted sect of Baptists, had great moral effect on the advancement of their cause in Sweden. Calls for Wiberg to return to the old country were both frequent and urgent. He remained three years in America and became intimately acquainted with the ways and means of operation in the American Baptist Church. After being married in Philadelphia Aug. 23, 1855, to Miss Caroline Lintemuth, he started on his mission to his native land, arriving at Stockholm in October. From now on the work in Sweden took a more organized form, and under his able direction the Baptist propaganda attracted widespread attention.

While in the United States, Wiberg solicited means for the erection of a Baptist church edifice in Stockholm, and for a long time he received from the American Baptists support for his work in Sweden.

Wiberg's work on baptism had commanded attention and aroused vigorous opposition. During his three years' sojourn in the United States no less than fourteen pamphlets against the Baptists had been published, and these were but the beginning of a "watery war of words" waged by a host of clerical writers. Wiberg ably defended his position with tongue and pen. He took part in two public debates with representatives of the state church, held a few weeks after his return, the latter of which broke up in a riot. Wiberg and his associates narrowly escaping bodily violence by fleeing through a side door.

From the moment Wiberg set foot on Swedish soil, he was strenuously at work. It is said that he went directly from the docks to preach in a hall where an expectant crowd had assembled. The little bands of Baptists everywhere requested his aid and advice, and it devolved upon him not only to give counsel in temporal matters, but also to make the doctrines and principles which they professed more clearly understood. It is said of Rev. George Scott, the pioneer Methodist missionary to Sweden, that he admittedly questioned the right of any church to carry on mission work in an evangelical land and laid himself open to the charge of hypocrisy by pretending that he did not seek to win over members of the state church. Wiberg, on the other hand, worked in the open and made no attempt to dissemble or compromise. With him at the head of the movement, persecution of the Baptists soon ceased in the capital, but still continued in several provinces.

The day after Wiberg's arrival, the congregation at Stockholm, organized in the spring of 1854 and numbering now eleven souls, decided to rent a larger meeting hall and reorganized, choosing as elders Wiberg and one Möllersvärd, an ardent promoter of the cause.

At Wiberg's initiative the first general conference of Baptists in

Sweden was opened at Stockholm June 13, 1857. At that time he estimated their number at 1,400, and the number of delegates present was 20, besides Wiberg, who presided. He was also one of the prime movers in the establishment of a Bible institute at Stockholm, named the Bethel Seminary. The matter was discussed at several annual conferences up to 1861, when on Wiberg's motion it was resolved to take action. Yet the plan was not realized for several years to come. In 1866, while Wiberg was in the United States, he induced two influential brethren, Broady and Edgren, to accompany him to Sweden and take charge of the instruction in the proposed school. With financial aid pledged by the American Baptist Missionary Union, through Wiberg's efforts, the annual conference of 1866, held in Stockholm Aug. 27-28, finally took the decisive step, founding the institution and electing a board of directors and a corps of instructors, K. O. Broady being made the head of the school and J. A. Edgren, Gustaf Palmquist and A. Drake associate teachers.

In 1864 Wiberg spent some time in the West, visiting the struggling little churches in Illinois, Iowa and Minnesota. Here his genius for organization was again in evidence. At the conference held in Village Creek, Ia., in June, 1864, he presided and took part in the formal organization of the Illinois-Iowa Conference. He was the soul of the meeting, the proceedings of which were printed and form the first yearbook of the Swedish-American churches.

During the thirty-two years that Rev. Wiberg labored so effectually in Sweden, he had the pleasure of seeing the Baptist Church in that country grow in membership from 1,000 to 30,000.

We have indicated the extent of Wiberg's literary labors. His principal works are: translations of works by Johan Arndt and Luther; "Hvilken bör döpas?" — a work on baptism, published in 1852; "De kristnas enhet"; a reply to P. Waldenström's book, "Barndopets historia"; a tract entitled, "Är du döpt?" and "Det christliga dopet." For various periods he edited "Missionstidningen," published "Evangelisk Luthersk Tidskrift," edited and published "Evangelisten," and contributed to "Kristianen." He assisted in editing a hymnal, "Psalmisten," and began a translation of the New Testament which was never completed.

Rev. Wiberg passed away Nov. 5, 1887, in his seventy-second year.

Rev. Fredrik Olaus Nilson

A sketch of the career of Fredrik Olaus Nilson, Sweden's first regular Baptist preacher, who subsequently lived and labored in the United States, will more fully illustrate the hampered yet successful progress of the Baptist movement in its early days.

He was born on Vändelsö on the coast of Halland, Sweden, July 28, 1809. His parents, who were of the middle class, gave their children the religious education imparted in the common schools. At ten years the boy awoke to his spiritual needs and seems to have earnestly sought salvation until his eighteenth year, when he went to sea, leaving Göteborg in 1827. Spiritual indifference followed until 1835, when a terrific storm off Cape Hatteras, threatening with destruction the vessel on which Nilson was employed, deeply stirred the mind of the young sailor. Fearing death, he took the works of Thomas Paine, which he had been studying at leisure moments, and threw them into the sea,



Rev. Fredrik Olaus Nilson

with a solemn promise that, should his life be spared, he would become a Christian. Upon his return to New York safe and sound, he attended the Mariners' Temple, and there found peace with God.

During the summer af 1836 Nilson was employed by the New York Tract Society to distribute tracts among the immigrants, but he continued seafaring until 1839, when he shipped in a Swedish vessel and returned home. Several souls were won by his preaching on board the ship, a fact that strengthened his desire to proclaim the gospel among his relatives and friends at home.

During the next few years Nilson worked as an independent evangelist in a number of parishes on the west coast. In 1842 he was engaged by the American Seamen's Friend Society, a Methodist organization, as a missionary among the seamen in the harbor of Göteborg. During the sailing season he was stationed in the city, but in winter

made missionary trips inland to the provinces of Halland, Vestergötland and Bohuslän. In 1844 he married Ulrika Sofia Olson.

When he became a Baptist, Nilson was deserted by many of his former followers. The little Baptist congregation organized at Landa in 1848 was the result of Nilson's efforts, but not until May 8, 1849, was he ordained as a regular Baptist preacher. His ordination took place at the Baptist meetinghouse in Hamburg. After that Nilson received the support of the Baptist Mariners' Church in New York.

The Baptists, who openly attacked the doctrines of the state church, could not hope to escape molestation. At first they worked privately and in secret, seeking thereby to avoid giving offense and to escape persecution. Nilson for a time pursued the same tactics, but shortly after the organization of the first church opposition to the Baptist "proselyters" appears to have grown more bitter than before.

At Christmas, 1848, while a little group of Baptists were gathered in Nilson's home in Göteborg to worship and break bread behind closed doors, a crowd collected outside and began to bombard the house with stones. The windows were shattered and the candles extinguished by the wind. In the darkness the worshipers escaped and hid in the attic while their assailants stormed the house and destroyed everything they could lay their hands on. Many instances of similar outrages have been recorded. Nilson's followers were frequently accosted in the streets with vile epithets or bodily assaulted, and the saying was, that "it costs but eighteen shillings to kill a Baptist." These outrages were committed by the lawless element, but with the connivance of the clergy. The Baptists were persecuted in other ways, by being discharged from work, boycotted by shopkeepers, ostracized from the society in which they were wont to move, and in some instances expelled from their own families. By the pastors they were reprimanded and disciplined, and Nilson himself was summoned before the consistory of Göteborg. After a hearing on July 4, 1849, he was declared an apostate and charged with teaching heresy. He escaped with a severe reprimand and an order to cease spreading dangerous doctrines at the peril of punishment to the full extent of the law. Nilson, however, continued preaching unmolested by the civil authorities the remainder of the year.

On New Year's day, 1850, Nilson was conducting divine worship in the house of one Abraham Anderson in Berghem parish of Elfsborg län. In the day they had set watch to guard against surprise, but in the evening, reassured by the absence of any show of molestation, the watchmen had left their posts to join the brethren inside. About to celebrate communion, the worshipers were alarmed by a loud rap at the door. When it was opened, they found the house surrounded

by men armed with sticks, clubs, rusty old sabers, pistols and muskets. Led by a fjerdingsman, the men made a rush for Nilson, who was violently kicked and beaten. The constable, after demanding Nilson's name, had him bound hand and foot, dragged from the house, placed in a sleigh and driven first to another village, where he was confronted with the länsman, or sheriff, thence to the Skened jail. After six days spent in a cold, dark cell, he was taken to the prison in Göteborg to await trial, but was released in two hours, through the intercession of his wife with the governor of the province.

A month later Nilson was summoned before the high court at Jönköping to answer to the charge of preaching false doctrine. He was



The First Edifice of the Swedish Baptist Church of Rockford

on trial March 8th and 11th, resulting April 26th in a verdict of banishment from the realm. Through the publicity given the trial Baptist teachings were made known generally throughout Sweden.

Nilson went to Stockholm and made a personal appeal for pardon before the king, who denied the petition. Sixteen petitions in his behalf, addressed to the leading men in the state church, and signed by one thousand Baptist churches in Great Britain and Ireland, were ignored. Availing himself of every recourse, including the court of last appeal, Nilson was able to remain in Sweden for more than a year from the time the verdict was pronounced. He left the country on July 4, 1851, and came to the United States after one year spent in Copenhagen.

He arrived in New York in June, 1853, at the head of a party of 23 of his followers from Sweden. They proceeded westward via Chicago to join their brethren in the faith in Rock Island and Moline. Only a few of the party located there, while Nilson with others of the party seems to have proceeded shortly afterwards to Burlington, Ia., and in 1855 to Minnesota. There he labored practically alone for

several years, organizing a number of the earliest Swedish Baptist churches in the state. While in Burlington he converted and baptized John Erickson and John Anderson, both prominent workers in the early days of the church.

In the fall of 1859 Nilson assumed charge of the church in Rock Island, remaining as its pastor for six months. In December, 1860, the Swedish law punishing dissenters with banishment was rescinded and Nilson forthwith returned to his native country. During his absence, the handfuls of Baptists in various localities had been scattered, not a few of them having left for the New World. The remnants of the church in Göteborg now rallied and reorganized, electing Nilson pastor, with Captain Schroeder as his right hand and chief backer.

In 1862 Nilson returned to the United States and continued to preach for many years. Ultimately he wavered in the faith, and is registered in Baptist history as a "backslider." He spent his last years at his home in Houston, Minn., where he died Oct. 21, 1881, at 72 years of age.

Rev. Johan Alexis Edgren

An event af prime importance to the Swedish Baptist Church of America was the founding of its first institution of learning by Rev. J. A. Edgren, in 1871, at Chicago. His work in behalf of the Swedish Baptists on this side of the Atlantic probably was of broader scope than that of any other man.

Johan Alexis Edgren was born at Östanå, Vermland, Sweden, Feb. 20, 1839, being the eldest child of Axel Edgren, superintendent of the Östanå steel works. A younger son was Hjalmar Edgren, deceased, who fought in the Civil War, and afterward became renowned as an educator, author, scholar and linguist, who during his last years was connected with the Nobel Institute of Stockholm. Johan Alexis entered the Karlstad elementary school in 1849, but abandoned his studies after three years to go to sea, following his boyish penchant for adventure. In Göteborg he attended a school for intending sailors for a short time, then hired out to a Norwegian sea-captain and made his first trip on board a rotten old brig destined for a French port with a cargo of lumber. With a few needful hints the captain put the boy to work in the kitchen, and his first maritime experience consisted in an attempt to cook peas, porridge and coffee for the crew, while the first attack of seasickness was playing havoc with his own stomach. When he returned home the following Christmas the lad had had his thirst for adventure quenched to a considerable extent, having been almost shipwrecked in a severe storm while outward bound and robbed of all his savings by a Norwegian stage driver on his way home. Un-

dismayed by these reverses, he returned on shipboard at the opening of the next season, but being disabled by over-exertion he spent almost a year at home and subsequently entered the school of navigation in Stockholm, graduating after a year's studies as captain's mate. The next fall he went to sea as ship's constable, a position which proved so distasteful to him that, contrary to his sense of duty, he deserted on reaching England, and went with the English clipper "Wild Wave,"



Rev. Johan Alexis Edgren

bound for Malta with a cargo of powder for the British forces then engaged in the Crimean War. At Valetta Edgren, not quite restored from his former injuries, was again prostrated by illness and when dismissed from the hospital found himself a penniless stranger in a strange city. To raise money for his next meal he sold his blouse to a Maltese laborer. He was fortunate, however, in finding in the harbor a Swedish bark, with which he shipped to Alexandria and thence back to Sweden.

At London Edgren joined the crew of an American vessel, bound for New York. Reaching that port he learned accidentally that there was a letter for him at the Methodist Bethel ship in East River. This brought him in contact with the Methodist seamen's missionaries, whose ardent prayers for his soul so impressed the young sailor that he himself from that moment began to seek the way of salvation.

Edgren next shipped with a brig bound for the West Indies. Returning to New York the following year, he again sought the society of Christians, visiting various churches. On his next voyage, to the coast of Virginia, he gave his heart to God and during a terrible storm pledged himself to the Lord's service as a missionary, whenever called, provided his life was spared. Back in New York, he again sought the brethren and brought them the joyful news of his regeneration. His intention now to visit his old home was changed when he was offered a place on a large frigate bound for Valparaiso. With this long voyage he planned to finish his practical course in common seamanship before eventually adopting another vocation.

Touching at New York again on returning from the South American trip, Edgren, while at a loss to determine what denomination of Christians to affiliate with, chanced to visit a Baptist seamen's mission chapel, where he was partially convinced that baptism should follow, not precede, conversion. He reasoned with his Methodist friends, but found their arguments unconvincing, and after inner struggles and earnest scriptural study, was baptized by Rev. I. R. Steward in the spring of 1858, just before starting for his home in Sweden.

With a two years' course ahead of him, Edgren again entered the Stockholm school of navigation, but succeeded in completing his studies in one year, and the following spring gave his parents a pleasant surprise by showing a captain's diploma, with the highest honors of the class and a first prize besides.

On a subsequent voyage to American ports as second mate on a Swedish brig, Edgren visited Charleston, S. C., and there received his first direct impressions of the curse of slavery, impressions that later prompted him to lend a hand in blotting it out. His plan to enter the Swedish navy having miscarried, Edgren was still in the service of the merchant marine when the Civil War broke out. He chanced to be on board a vessel off Charleston at the time and became an eye-witness to the first shots exchanged in that great conflict.

In the fall of 1861 a friend in Sweden proposed to Edgren that they open a navigation school in the United States, but he had planned to fit himself further by taking an advanced course at Stockholm and, unable to choose, cast lots, which fell in favor of the latter plan. In the capital he came in contact with Rev. Wiberg and preached

now and then. Some two years prior, he had preached his first sermon on Christmas Day, 1859, to a ship's crew on the Atlantic Ocean. Though urged by Wiberg to forsake the sea, Edgren did not yet see his future mission clear. In the spring of 1862 he came over to the United States as a passenger, to visit his brother Hjalmar, who was in the Union army and had just been through the memorable battle of Hampton Roads. He found him at Fort Rip Raps, and returning to New York at once applied for service in the navy as a non-commissioned officer, but was given a commission upon passing examination. He first served as navigator on board a bark participating in the blockade of the Atlantic ports. When his brother, now an officer of staff, resigned from the army on account of illness and left for Sweden, he also left the service and took up theological studies at Princeton University. Still undecided about entering the ministry, he resumed his commission in the navy at the end of the school year. He was now given command of the small armored steamer "Catalpa" and ordered to report to Admiral Dahlgren at Port Royal. Disliking the inactivity on board the blockading ships, he applied for service in a battery at Cumming's Point. From now until the fall of Charleston he was almost constantly on the firing line, and was present when on that memorable 15th of April, amid the thunder of guns and deafening cheers, General Anderson again hoisted the selfsame Union flag he had been compelled to haul down at the opening of the war, over the shattered ramparts of Fort Sumter.

The close of the war was at hand, and after commanding for a time a confederate vessel taken as a prize, Edgren resigned from the navy and was engaged by the American Baptist Publication Society as a colporteur and seamen's missionary in New York. In the fall of 1865 he entered Madison University. After one year's study he was appointed missionary by the Baptist Missionary Union, accompanied Rev. Wiberg to Stockholm, and became professor of mathematics and natural science at the Bethel Seminary at the opening of the institution. He was accompanied to Sweden by his wife, formerly Miss Annie Abbott Chapman of Becket, Mass., whom he married at Hamburg, March 10, 1866.

When Dr. Warren, secretary of the Missionary Union, on a visit to Stockholm, found too many missionaries stationed there, Edgren resigned, and removed to Upsala to devote himself to preaching and theological study. Of the local church there was but a remnant left, almost all the members having become adherents of one Helge Åkesson, who taught Christian perfectionism. The church, after being reorganized, again had begun to grow when Edgren was compelled to leave, his wife being unable to endure the climate. The following winter he labored as a missionary at Göteborg and in the spring the

pair returned to America. Edgren now accepted a call to the Chicago church and served until its chapel was destroyed in the great fire.

The need of missionary forces in the West was apparent, and Edgren soon conceived the idea of meeting this want by means of a Bible school. In the fall of 1871 he was about to begin instruction in the rooms of the Baptist chapel, when the Union Theological Seminary, in Morgan Park, which planned to open a Scandinavian department, invited him to establish his school in conjunction with it. Edgren accordingly made arrangements to move and his library was saved from destruction by being removed just a few days before the fire.

At first the students of Edgren's department were very few, and he gave part of his time to study at the seminary, preaching and editing a religious monthly. Failing health soon forced his complete retirement for one year. Almost destitute, he was enabled by a friendly donation to go back to his old home for a rest. The vessel on which he returned was almost battered to pieces in a storm and he was in greater peril of his life than ever before in his seafaring career. In New York he met—and left—his wife, who without informing him, had hired out as wetnurse in order to earn a living for herself and children.

He resumed his professorship in Chicago, which was in no sense a sinecure, the incumbent being required to raise the means of maintaining himself and the school. Before long his family could rejoin him at Morgan Park. For fifteen years Edgren remained at the head of the Swedish department of the seminary, which meanwhile reached a maximum attendance of 40. Owing to failing health, Edgren in 1887 withdrew from his various activities and since lived in retirement in California until his death, which occurred on Jan. 26, 1908.

Prof. Edgren, who in 1880 received from the Chicago University the honorary degree of D. D., was a noted biblical scholar and commentator, and has written interesting memoirs of his life. His literary work, aside from newspaper editing, comprises these published volumes: "Bibeln en gudomlig uppenbarelse" (1867); "Minnen från hafvet och kriget" (1872); "Efter döden;" "Den öppna kommunionen i skriftens ljus;" "Sabbaten och Herrens dag," the last three revised and re-published under the common title, "Brännande frågor;" "Minnen från hafvet, kriget och missionsfältet" (1878), a revised reprint; "Bibeln Guds bok" (1878); "Försoningen," a lecture (1880); "Epiphanea: A Study in Prophecy" (1881); "Bibeltolkningens lagar;" "Kristlig troslära för barn;" "Biblisk troslära;" "Öfversättning och utläggning af Mattei evangelium," and "På lifvets haf" (1898). The church papers edited by Dr. Edgren were, "Zions Vakt," started in 1873 and continued for a brief period, and "Evangelisk Tidskrift," established in 1877 and continued by him until 1880.

Capt. Gustavus W. Schroeder

Gustavus W. Schroeder was born near Göteborg April 9, 1821. At sixteen he became a sailor and followed the sea for the next thirty years. He was twenty-three years of age when baptized by Rev. Ira R. Steward in New York and continued for 29 years a member of the Mariners' Church. While in Sweden in 1845 he learned that his two brothers, one master, the other second officer of a Chilian bark, were in



Capt. Gustavus W. Schroeder

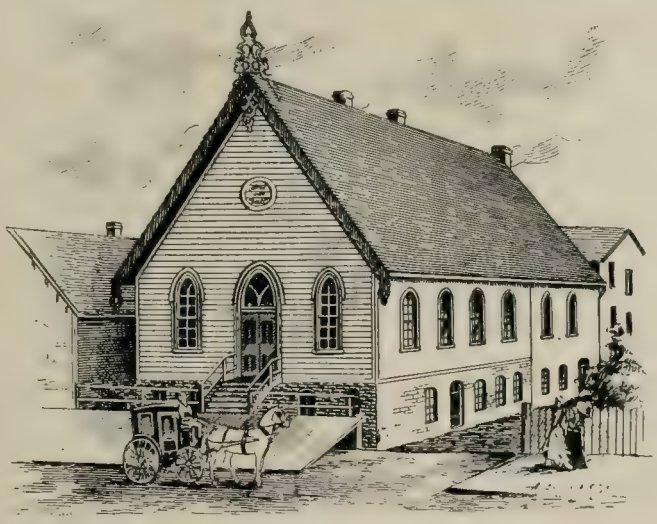
Hamburg. He met them there, and being tendered the chief officer's place, shipped for Valparaiso, where, at the age of twenty-five, he was made captain of a vessel. Four years later he married Miss Mary Steward, daughter of his pastor, and in 1861 located in Göteborg to champion the cause of the little flock of Baptists in that city. After two years he returned to the United States, and lived first in Illinois, then in California until he again located in Göteborg about 1883 and joined the church in which he had formerly labored. In 1891 he came back to this country and is now a member of the Memorial Baptist Church of Brooklyn.

The Baptist congregation in Göteborg had just been organized, when Captain Schroeder came there in 1861. He built a house, in which a large room was fitted up as a meeting hall. Here, as elsewhere in Sweden, the state church resisted the movement as heretical. The

local consistory appealed to the police to have the hall closed and brought suit against F. O. Nilson, pastor of the church, and Captain Schroeder, charging the former with holding religious meetings illegally, and the latter with aiding and abetting the crime. After a vigorous fight by Nilson and Schroeder, the case was decided against them and a fine of 100 crowns was imposed on the latter. The course of the clergy was at the time publicly criticised as unwise, to say the least, as the persecution of the leaders, instead of serving to suppress the movement, had the opposite effect and proved a moral victory for the Baptists.

The Chicago Field

The earliest Swedish Baptist church in Chicago existed from 1853 to 1864. It was organized by some thirty persons, formerly members of the American First Baptist Church. These are known to have been among the organizers, viz., Peter Peterson, Peter Modine, Andrew Anderson, John Uberg, Matthew Matson, Fred Blomquist, William



The First Swedish Baptist Church of Chicago, Second Edifice

Wigland, Ira J. Collings, F. M. Winterset, one Mr. Mullen, all with their wives. L. L. Frisk was ordained to become their first pastor. Meetings were held in the homes of members until November, 1854, when the American church raised $900, for which sum a small edifice situated at La Salle avenue and Erie street was purchased from the German Lutherans for the use of the Swedish brethren. It was removed to Bremer street in 1858 and there used as a house of worship

until destroyed by fire in 1860 or 1861. A schoolhouse was then rented, in which the meetings were held for an indefinite period. Rev. Frisk remained as pastor until 1857, when he was succeeded by Rev. Palmquist, who served for six months. After him the church appears to have had no permanent pastor, but the congregation continued in existence until 1864, when the unsettled conditions incident to the Civil War caused the members to scatter, which resulted in the disintegration of the church.



The First Swedish Baptist Church of Chicago, Present Edifice

The present First Swedish Baptist Church of Chicago, therefore, is not the original one. It was not called into existence until 1866. On Jan. 16th of that year a little group of persons who had belonged to Baptist churches in Sweden met at the house of J. C. Fasten to talk over the outlook for a local church. The meeting, over which Captain R. E. Jeanson of New York presided, was barren of results. After six months a second meeting was held at the same place, when it was unanimously resolved to organize a church. Nine preliminary meetings were held before action was taken.

In the meantime a party of Baptists from Hudiksvall, Sweden, arrived. With them were two preachers, Olof Lindh and N. E. Axling, and their presence in Chicago hastened action in the matter. The newcomers first joined their brethren at a meeting in the house of one Nylund, at 185 Townsend street, held on the 19th of July, when the

plan to organize a church was further matured. Some were members of the Danish Baptist Church, which opposed the plan; others carried their letters of membership in their pockets. A couple of weeks later came John Ring and J. H. Ullmark, also Baptist preachers from Sweden. Finally, on Aug. 19, 1866, the formal organization took place in the edifice of the North Star Baptist Church, which had been opened for the use of the Swedish brethren. On this occasion Lindh, Axling and Ring officiated. John Ring, who had been called as pastor at a



The Englewood Swedish Baptist Church

salary of $150 a year, was installed by the laying on of hands and the invocation of the blessing.

The church numbered from the outset 38 members. That same fall the new church was recognized by a council held in the Danish church. The services were held there and in the North Star Church on Division street until November, when a Presbyterian schoolhouse on Bremer street was rented for the purpose.

Rev. Lindh remained a member of this church until the following spring, when he accepted a call from Altona. He assisted Rev. Ring in the work, taught the Bible class and served at Ring's request as chairman of the church council. Ring resigned in the spring of 1869,

whereupon Lindh stepped in and filled the pulpit temporarily, until Rev. C. W. Segerblom, a Baptist preacher from Sweden, arrived and was at once claimed by this church as their pastor. Segerblom was an erratic character and proved untrustworthy as a leader. He did not last long in Chicago. Subsequently he went over to Methodism and became pastor of the Swedish Methodist Church in Jamestown, N. Y., where he operated to the detriment of that church. He next flopped to Lutheranism and changed his name to Sidger. This clerical turncoat died in Missouri, time unknown.



The Lake View Swedish Baptist Church

In 1868 the congregation built its own edifice, on Oak street, between Sedgwick and Townsend streets. This church, which was dedicated May 14th, had a seating capacity of 700 and cost $5,000, inclusive of the lot. When it was destroyed in the great fire the congregation was on the point of disbanding, but its scattered members rallied and built a new edifice, seating 300 persons and costing $2,500. This was dedicated Feb. 15, 1873. An addition was built in 1876. Having far outgrown its capacity, the congregation in 1889 erected a $37,000 edifice at Milton avenue and Elm street, which was dedicated the first Sunday in March, 1890. This structure, which is one of the

costliest owned by the Swedish Baptists, accommodates an audience of one thousand people.

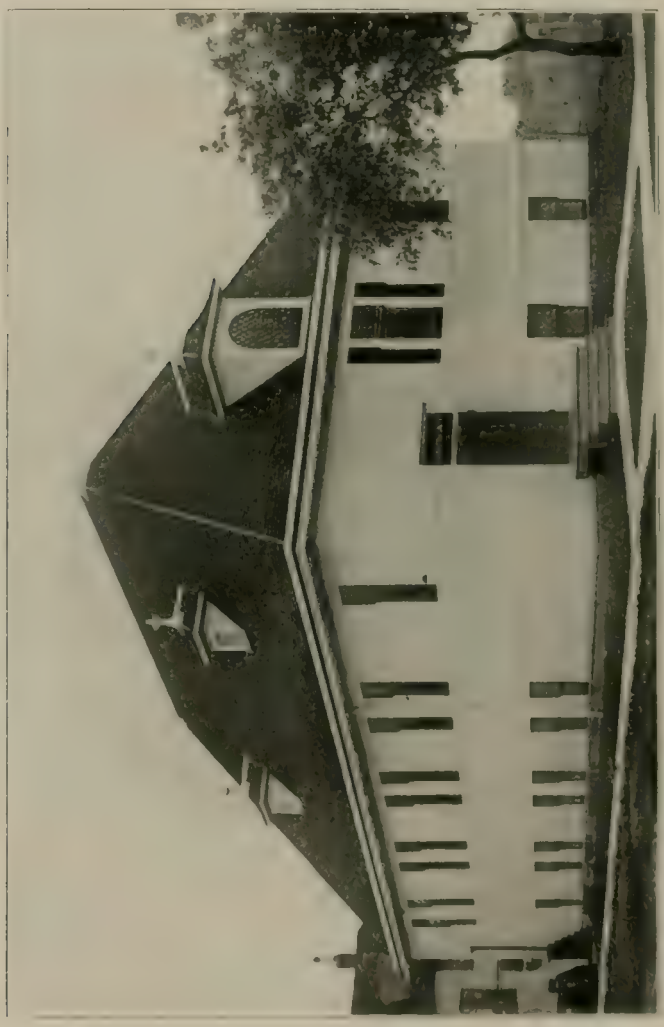
The pastors of this church, permanent or temporary, have been:



The Humboldt Park Swedish Baptist Church

John Ring, Olof Lindh, C. W. Segerblom, J. A. Edgren, E. Wingren, E. Lundin, John Ongman, P. A. Hjelm, G. A. Hagström and Thorsten Clafford, the present incumbent.

Rev. John Ongman who served the church as its pastor from 1875 to 1881 and again from 1885 to 1886, making a total of eight years, came to Chicago from Sweden in 1868, but soon left for Minnesota, where he labored for the church in various localities for about thirteen



The Berwyn Swedish Baptist Church

years, including the pastorate of the First church in St. Paul, which he served during three different periods, aggregating ten years. Since 1890 he has been active in the Baptist Church of Sweden. Rev. Ongman's labors in this country were very fruitful. He was chosen president of the Swedish Baptist General Conference at the organization of that body in 1879 and served for three consecutive years.

During Rev. P. A. Hjelm's term of service, from August, 1888, until October, 1896, the church made remarkable progress. It was his privilege to welcome no less than 711 new members, 240 of whom were baptized by him. In the same period there was a loss of 644 through death, removals and expulsion, leaving a net increase of 67. The principal drain on the membership was caused by the organization of four daughter churches, each of them claiming members directly from the First church and indirectly impeding its growth.

Succeeding Hjelm, Rev. G. A. Hagström served this pastorate for ten years. In 1902 the fiftieth anniversary of the Swedish Baptist Church of America was celebrated in this church, with a jubilee held in connection with the General Conference sessions.

The fortieth anniversary of the founding of the church was



Rev. John Ongman



Rev. P. A. Hjelm

celebrated Oct. 18-21, 1906. At that time a historical review was published, giving many data and figures.

Five daughter churches have been organized from the membership of the First church, viz., the Evanston church, in 1886, with 26 members, to which have been added 59, total gain from the First church, 85; the Lake View church, in 1889, members, 30, total gain from First church, 96; the Salem church, in 1890, members, 9, total gain from First church, 20; the Austin church, in 1891, members 9, total gain from First church, 27; the Humboldt Park church, in 1891, members, 16, total gain from First church, 64. Beyond this, the First church has lost to other Chicago churches a large number of members, including 56 to the Second church, 81 to Englewood and 34 to American churches.

Up to 1880 this church had gained 549 members and lost 316, retaining a net total of 233; in 1890 it had 515, in 1898, 695 and in 1907, 657 members. It is the largest of the Swedish Baptist churches in this country, leading the largest in Minneapolis and St.

Paul by about 70 and those of New York and Brooklyn by about 200 members. The church property is valued at $43,000.

Rev. John Ring

John Ring, who became pastor of the Chicago church at its organization in 1866, had just come over from Sweden, where he had preached for five or six years. He was born in Delsbo parish, Helsingland, Feb. 16, 1829. After his conversion and baptism in 1859 he began to preach the Baptist doctrine in his home locality and shared the persecution then contingent on teaching at variance with the state church. For holding services during the hours of 10-12 a. m. on Sundays, reserved



Rev. John Ring

by law for the state church, he was arrested and convicted, and served a sentence of one month in the Hernösand jail in the winter of 1862-3.

He was pastor of the Chicago church from its inception in August, 1866, until May, 1869, when he located as a farmer at Trade Lake, Wis. He became instrumental in organizing a church there and later laid the foundation for the First Swedish Baptist Church of Minneapolis. Subsequently Ring removed to Omaha, where he lived for many years, at various periods in charge of the local Swedish Baptist church. For three years, 1877-80, he was in pastoral charge at Kiron, Ia., then for five years conducted a jewelry store in Oakland, Neb., and removed the business to Omaha, where he died Oct. 6, 1896, from injuries received in a bicycle accident. Ring was twice married and had three children.

Rev. Olof Lindh

Among the successful Swedish Baptist workers in Illinois, as well as in the Eastern states and in Sweden, Rev. Olof Lindh holds an eminent place. He was born in Helsingtuna, Sweden, Sept. 24, 1835. His father, a prominent farmer and a trusted man in the community,

was a lay preacher among the religionists styled Readers. The son Olof was deeply influenced from childhood by his father's pious precept and right living, but did not experience regeneration of the heart until his twenty-fifth year. He was baptized in the sea near Hudiksvall on May 8, 1860, by his brother, Per Lindh, and began preaching after much trepidation some two years later, meanwhile supporting himself by his trade as shoemaker. For four years he was pastor of the Baptist church in Hudiksvall, then emigrated and located in Chicago. There he helped to organize the church in August, 1866, and was elected elder at the time. Prior thereto he preached his first sermon here



Rev. Olof Lindh

on July 22nd, a week after his arrival. He took turns with Ring in preaching in Chicago, then was stationed for a time at Altona in 1867-8, and next became traveling missionary in Illinois and Iowa. In 1869, during the vacancy after Rev. Ring, and before the arrival of Segerblom, his successor, Lindh supplied the pulpit of the Chicago church for a brief period. Segerblom made things so disagreeable for him that he left Chicago, determined to give up preaching. Going to Moline to work at his trade, he was by the Swedish Baptists there and in Rock Island induced to become their pastor and served them for the next six years. In that period no less than 139 members joined the church at Rock Island.

Lindh returned to Sweden in 1876 and labored there for three years, serving as pastor in Sundsvall and Hässjö. In that time he was instrumental in bringing a large number of new members into the Baptist churches.

Returning to the United States, Lindh had a call to preach in Boston, but owing to the burning of Tremont Temple, where the Swedish Baptists met, just after his arrival, he left in discouragement. After a brief stay in Moline, he accepted a call to the church in New York, which was about to go to pieces, but under his leadership began to flourish and has thrived greatly ever after. During his eight years in New York Lindh began mission work in a number of places, including Brooklyn and Jamestown, N. Y.; Bridgeport, New Haven, Meriden and New Britain, Conn., and Antrim and McKeesport, Pa., and organized churches in the places named. In 1887 he became pastor of the Boston church, but left the following year to become traveling missionary of the Eastern Conference. As such he labored until 1891, whereupon he was stationed at Bridgeport, Conn., until 1893, when he went again to Sweden, returning in 1895. He withdrew from pastoral work in 1900, after serving in Cambridge, Mass., Concord, N. H., and New Haven, Conn.

Rev. Lindh's work as a pastor and preacher during thirty-eight years has been blessed in more than ordinary measure. He has organized a score of churches in this country, including three in Illinois, and baptized 500 converts in the United States and 300 in Sweden. Among those converted through his instrumentality several have become prominent Baptist preachers. Lindh has lived a life rich in experience, and these he recounts in a goodnatured and entertaining manner in a volume of reminiscences, entitled, "Minnen och iakttagelser fran en förfluten lefnad," published in 1907.

The Swedish Theological Seminary of the University of Chicago

The founder of this the theological seminary of the Swedish Baptists of America was Dr. J. A. Edgren. He returned in 1870 from Sweden, where he had taught in the Bethel Seminary at Stockholm, with a live sense of the importance to the Swedish Baptists in this country of educating their own preachers and pastors, as their brethren in Sweden were doing. After the decision had been reached to begin instruction in the Oak Street church, the Baptist Union Theological Seminary invited Edgren to take up this work at that institution, an offer thankfully accepted. In the fall of 1871 the course was opened with an attendance of one student—Christopher Silene. Later a few others were added.

In 1873, after an interruption in his work, caused by ill health, Edgren was officially called to conduct a Scandinavian department at the seminary, with the added burden of providing for the support and maintenance of himself and the department. Undismayed by such a prospect, he accepted the position and worked under the same disheart

ening conditions for the next five years. The opening attendance in 1873 was four, and among the first graduates were N. Hayland, A. A. Linné, C. Silene and A. B. Orgren. In 1877 the seminary was removed from Chicago to the suburb of Morgan Park, where the Scandinavian



Morgan Hall, Present Home of the Swedish Baptist Theological Seminary, Morgan Park, Ill.

department was conducted by Edgren until 1884. A desire on the part of the Swedish brethren to have a school distinctly their own then ripened into action, after a resolution to that effect had been passed by the General Conference three years before, designating Minneapolis as

its location. During the following year instruction was given at St. Paul, pending a definite location of the institution. That year ample means for its support were contributed, while no less than $20,000 were subscribed to a building fund and a site between the twin cities was offered.

A year later, however, the school was removed to Stromsburg, Neb., where it had been given 10 acres of land and a bonus of $10,500. Apparently the desired end had now been attained, yet it has been intimated that this move probably did more than anything else to cross the purpose of the Swedish Baptists to build up their own school. Its location there seems to have been dictated by private interests, and the name now given to the institution—The Central Bible Seminary—was a misnomer from the church point of view. As early as 1888 it was generally realized that a mistake had been made, and a majority of the directors favored a more central location. Negotiations were taken up for moving the institution back to Minneapolis-St. Paul, or Chicago. Rev. Eric Sandell, having secured acceptable terms from the Baptist Theological Union, the question of reuniting with the Chicago institution was taken up the same year by the General Conference, when the proposition was carried by a vote of 42 to 7.

In 1887 Edgren's impaired health had compelled his withdrawal from the teacher's chair occupied by him for fifteen years, and now Rev. C. G. Lagergren was called from Sweden to take his place. The other teachers, Eric Sandell and N. N. Morten, were continued in the service. At the opening of the school year we find the school again at Morgan Park, after having received pledges for the maintenance of the department and aid for its students from the Baptist Theological Union and the Baptist Education Society. The former organization agreed to provide lecture halls and lodgings for the students in Walker Hall at Morgan Park and to pay the salaries of two of the Swedish professors, while the entire department was to be under the supervision of the Divinity School of the University of Chicago. In 1895 Sandell and Morten were succeeded by Profs. W. A. Peterson and O. Hedeen, and Prof. Lagergren, who accepted the call in 1888, remains at the head of the Swedish instruction. Others who have taught for longer or shorter periods are: E. Wingren, N. P. Jensen, Frank Peterson, John Ongman and A. B. Orgren.

At the celebration of the tenth anniversary of the seminary it was reported that instruction had been received by 87 students, of whom 63 were Swedes, 17 Danes and 9 Norwegians.

The Home of Rest at Morgan Park

A donation of $25 received from a benevolent lady in the spring of 1898, by Rev. Eric Rosén, started the fund through which the Swedish Baptist home for the aged has been realized. Rev. Rosén, who had cherished the idea for some time, continued to speak for the cause, presenting the matter at various conferences, yet without calling forth definite action. Four years passed without any advancing step. Then a devout couple promised to donate $1,000 to the cause, as a memorial to their deceased son, and this gave the impulse to a definite movement among the Swedish Baptists toward establishing an old people's home. At a private meeting of interested persons, held Nov. 26, 1902, it was resolved to accept the gift and proceed to incorporate an association whose object should be to found such an institution. The date of incorporation was Jan. 14, 1903, and the object of the association was thus stated: "to provide a home and place of rest for aged and destitute Swedish Baptists and other worthy persons in need of a temporary or permanent home."

During 1904 the cause did not advance beyond the drawing up of plans for a building to be erected in sections according to the future needs. It being deemed advisable to open the home without further delay, a private house at 236 Sunnyside Ave., Chicago, was leased from Dec. 12, 1904, to May 1, 1906, and opened as an old age retreat. Its first inmate was Johan Gunnarson, aged 80 years, who arrived on Jan. 28, 1905. The dedication of the temporary home took place Feb. 19th following. During the year ten other inmates were accepted. Rev. C. J. Almquist was employed as traveling solicitor for the institution and in six months raised $7,000 in cash and subscriptions.

A permanent location for the home having been selected in Morgan Park, in the neighborhood of the Swedish Baptist theological seminary, building operations were begun, and the central section of the proposed structure was completed and occupied in 1906. This the permanent building of the Swedish Baptist home for the aged was formally dedicated in connection with the holding of the General Conference in September of the same year. The present valuation of $24,000, less a debt of $7,000, shows the net present worth of the institution to be $17,000, while outstanding subscriptions amount to $14,000.

Prior to the eighties the work of the Swedish Baptists showed no great results in Illinois, there being but four or five small, struggling churches in the state up to that time, the youngest of which was that of Princeton, organized in 1877. During the last twenty-five years greater success has attended their efforts. In Chicago and vicinity thirteen congregations have been added, nine of them being among the most populous ones in the state. The church in Rockford, organ-

ized in 1880, now has a membership of 270, and is the largest in the state, outside of Chicago.

The statistics of 1907-8 showed that the state conference comprised 35 churches, with a total membership of 4,392. The number of ministers was 22; the total value of church property, $297,157. The total disbursements for the year were $70,614, including $36,708 for local current expenses and $33,906 for all other purposes.

From Illinois the Swedish Baptist Church has been extended to every section of the country populated by Swedish people. Its greatest gains have been made in the state of Minnesota, where work was begun almost as early as in Illinois. Today the church is subdivided into 21



"Fridhem," The Swedish Baptist Home for the Aged, Morgan Park

conferences, each embracing one or several states, in addition to which there are a number of scattered congregations in other states and in Canada. A General Conference is held annually since 1879, when it was organized at Village Creek, Ia.

The statistics published in 1908 give the following figures: Congregations, 357; ordained ministers, 208; preachers and woman missionaries, 135; church buildings, 305; net increase in membership for the year last past, 902; total membership, 26,645; value of church property, $1,837,830; debt on same, $327,514; local disbursements, $400,075; contributions to missions and benevolent purposes, $88,375.

Besides the theological school, there are two educational institutions, Adelphia College, in Seattle, Wash., and Bethel Academy, in Minneapolis, Minn., also an orphans' asylum, located at New Britain, Conn., all of which receive their main support from the Swedish Baptist Church.

CHAPTER X

The Swedish Mission Church

The Movement Defined

THE denomination of believers known as the Mission Friends is one of the outgrowths of a movement within the state church of Sweden toward deeper spirituality, greater freedom from dogmatism and set forms of worship and church practice, the exclusion of all but true Christians from participation in the holy communion and ultimately the reorganization of the church on the basis of admitting as members true believers only. Many of the adherents of this movement, known by the common and reproachful name of Readers, remained loyal to the Lutheran state church, but about the middle of the last century numbers of them became Methodists, Baptists and Erik Janssonists. In the sixties and seventies another part of this same church element, organized into local "communion societies" and more general mission societies, began to crystallize into a new denomination of dissenters, who became known as Mission Friends and in 1878 established a free church, named the Mission Covenant of Sweden. Its counterpart in this country is the Swedish Evangelical Mission Covenant of America, organized in 1885. This is the only well-defined body of the Mission Friends in the United States, who are otherwise divided into three groups, the Mission Covenant, the Swedish Congregationalists and the Swedish Free Mission. The lines of demarkation between these cannot be distinctly drawn. Owing to a peculiar looseness in organization, these groups overlap and run into one another. Thus, by way of illustration, a pastor who is duly registered as a member of the Mission Covenant may be in charge of a church not organically connected with the Covenant, but either independent of all church denominations or allied with the Congregational Church, and vice versa. The so-called Free Mission Friends are the ultras, who at first frowned upon all forms of denominational organization as unbiblical and, therefore,

unchristian. In later years they have formed an organization of their own, differing from the Mission Covenant chiefly in the higher degree of looseness in construction.

Beginning of the Movement in Chicago

In the year 1867, a number of Mission Friends from the city of Jönköping and vicinity emigrated and came to Chicago. Here they joined the Immanuel Swedish Lutheran Church, but did not feel at home in the Augustana Synod, which to their mind was no great improvement on the state church of the old country. As a consequence they soon formed a group by themselves and began to hold meetings in the various homes. One Martin Sundin was in the habit of reading to them from the religious periodical "Pietisten," but as yet they had no recognized leader. In 1868, John Peterson and several others from Jönköping came over and joined the group. Peterson, who had been a lay preacher in Sweden, naturally took a leading part in the private meetings, which for a time were held in his own rooms. Another of the earliest preachers was C. J. Lindahl, who took a prominent part in the work in 1869. The arrival of J. M. Sanngren, and a powerful evangelical sermon preached by him, is said to have given the real impetus toward a distinct organization, and on December 26, 1868, at a meeting held in the home of Martin Sundin, 134 E. Superior street, the preliminary steps were taken in the organization of a Mission Association on the order of those in Sweden. This was the nucleus of the North Side Lutheran Mission Church subsequently established independently of the Immanuel Church. The growing attendance at these meetings necessitating a larger meeting-place, a little old schoolhouse on Bremer street (now Milton avenue) was procured and adapted for the purpose. This was soon taxed to its full capacity and, although put in fairly good condition, threatened to fall from overcrowding. The need of a better hall was apparent and work to that end was begun, the building fund starting with the sum of 18 cents. A sewing society was formed for the purpose of increasing the fund and at its first auction sale the sum of $117 was realized. One of the brethren, A. W. Hedenschoug by name, a prominent member of the group, suggested the purchase of a certain property on Franklin street, comprising three building lots. The price, $5,300, looked prohibitive, but one Samuelson, a leading member of the Immanuel Church, where many of them still were enrolled, came to their assistance by mortgaging his own home for the amount needed. The purchase was made May 21, 1869. As soon as the new mission house, a structure 80 by 42 feet, had been enclosed, in October, a meeting was held there, Brother Peterson preaching to a jubilant audience seated on planks.

Having attained such proportions, the movement began to attract the attention of the synodical pastors, who endeavored to prevent a separation by assuming a friendly attitude. The dedicatory services were attended by Rev. Erland Carlsson and J. G. Princell, an Augustana student, then continuing his studies at the Chicago University. Rev. Hasselquist and other ministers showed their interest by preaching in the new mission house. They offered the suggestion that this be made a "week-day church," while all should attend the Sunday services at the Immanuel Church, as formerly, or that it be turned into a refuge for the needy. Neither suggestion was agreed to. The breach widened, and the trend was in the direction of a separate church, with or without any such intention on the part of those involved. The primary purpose had been to hold evangelistic meetings in the spirit of the "Readers' meetings" in the old country; to this was added the secondary one of missionating and building up a society or congregation of true believers only, patterned after the mission societies in Sweden. At this juncture a certain lawyer inquired whether any legal organization had been affected. Being instructed by him as to the necessity and advantage of such organization, the adherents of the movement proceeded to organize, adopting the name of The Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Missionary Association of Chicago. The next question raised was that of "recording" or incorporating the association, which was also done. A Swedish newspaper now propounded the question, what was the spirit and tendency of the so-called Mission Friends, and in its next issue answered by stating categorically that they were "un-Lutheran, unchurchly and unchristian." At a meeting of Mission Friends held in Princeton in the fall of 1869 two brethren, Peterson and Hedenschoug, were selected to call upon the ministerium of the Augustana Synod for a correction of that uncharitable statement. The onus was then thrown upon a certain editor employed on the newspaper who, in resigning his position shortly afterward, gave it out that certain clergymen were responsible for the article in question.

The association thus formed for a time existed as an organization within the Immanuel Church. It had a board of ten or twelve directors, its first set of officers being Martin Sundin, president; Olof Anderson, secretary, and S. Samuelson, treasurer, and the total membership in the association during the first month of its existence probably did not exceed a score. C. J. Lindahl, the first preacher engaged by the association, was a brother of Rev. S. P. A. Lindahl of the Augustana Synod, and had previously been in the service of the Swedish Lutherans of Chicago as city missionary, but was discharged on the ground of "hyper-evangelical" tendencies. Lindahl, who was engaged by the

association in February, 1869, remained only a few months in its service, subsequently going over to the Lutheran General Synod to serve as its missionary among the Swedish people. Lindahl was succeeded in the summer of 1869 by J. M. Sanngren, the first regular pastor of this flock.

When the mission society had taken the decisive step, separating from the church and founding an independent congregation, one of its first cares was how to obtain a regularly ordained pastor. After some trepidation as to the propriety of celebrating the holy communion without the services of a minister, the society had accepted the Eucharist at the hands of Sanngren, but while they held him competent as a layman to administer the sacraments, there was still a difference of opinion among the members as to whether ordination by a clergyman of the church was a prerequisite for exercising the functions of the apostolic ministry. At its incorporation the society was invested with authority to license preachers, and the first four to be licensed were its own preachers, Sanngren and J. Peterson, and, at the request of other societies, C. A. Björk and H. Blom. Others who shortly after were given their licenses were: C. P. Mellgren, P. Wedin and C. J. Magnuson. But that a mere license, granted by the civil authorities, was quite different from the biblical consecration for the holy ministry, was clearly realized, and soon all were agreed that to come into the full exercise of ministerial functions the preacher should be consecrated by prayers and the laying on of hands, without agreeing, however, as to who was the proper person to perform this act.

For light on this mooted question the New Testament as well as the writings of Luther and Rosenius were consulted. The latter authorities were found to support the position that the consecration of men to the ministry is the function of ordained ministers. These writers being held in high esteem by all the brethren, no one ventured to oppose them, although several differed with them on this point. The outcome was, that the Mission Society of Chicago through C. Anderson, a Danish pastor belonging to the Lutheran Synod of Northern Illinois, petitioned for J. M. Sanngren's ordination by that body. The request was granted, and accordingly, at a special meeting of the society, Sanngren was by the said synod ordained to the ministry of the gospel.* The question of "apostolic succession" having been thus settled, so far as the society was concerned, C. A. Björk was ordained by Sanngren in 1870 and the same order has been subsequently followed.

Traveling missionaries, supported by this church, were sent out to different parts of the country to preach, including the aforesaid John Peterson, and through their efforts or independently little

* Bowman: Missionsvännerna i Amerika.

groups of Mission Friends sprung up in various localities, such as Princeton and Galesburg, Ill., Swede Bend, Keokuk and Des Moines, Ia., St. Paul and Minneapolis, Minn., and elsewhere.

The Mission Church on the north side, which dates its independent existence from the early part of 1869, prospered and finished its house of worship in a short time, but hardly had this been done when the great fire of 1871 swept it away. The members were now scattered in all directions, the majority taking refuge on the west side. There they were sheltered in a schoolhouse, together with other refugees of all nationalities. John Peterson was appointed quartermaster for this aggregation of hungry and ill-clad fire sufferers, who were furnished food and clothing by the relief committee. Scrupulously avoiding every suspicion of selfishness or mismanagement, Peterson would not appropriate a single thread of clothing for his own use, but turned to his personal friend D. L. Moody, who had charge of a relief station near by, for what he needed for himself. Moody regretted to say that he came too late, all his supplies having been exhausted the day before. "But," said he, "I have here an old coat from a Catholic priest, if you care to take it." Grateful for any favor, Peterson donned the garment and returned to his party. There he was at once surrounded by Catholic women who called him "Father" and implored him to administer the sacraments to them. He refused them on the ground of not being a priest, but they were insistent in their prayers, and as against the silent testimony of that coat no arguments could convince them of their mistake. When Peterson shortly afterward was sent to preach in Des Moines that long, black, ecclesiastical garment so shocked the free church friends there that they ushered him post haste to a clothier's shop and bought him a coat of more "evangelical" cut.

After the fire, the Mission Friends at first held their meetings in a rented church on the south side, but bent their efforts toward rebuilding the mission house on the north side. When, after a few months spent in Des Moines, Peterson returned to Chicago, he was engaged to solicit funds for a new edifice. In the short period of six weeks he raised $2,600. C. A. Björk, who had begun preaching in Swede Bend, Ia., came to his assistance and succeeded in raising $4,000 more. With these funds a new and more commodious mission house was reared on the site of the first. Rev. Sanngren continued in charge of the church from 1869 till 1877, when he was succeeded by Rev. Björk. He served the church for a period of seventeen years, until February, 1895, when he was required to devote his entire time to his duties as president of the Covenant. His successor was Rev. August Pohl, who resigned in 1899. The next permanent pastor was Rev. K. F. Ohlson, who was in charge from May, 1900, till the end of

the year 1903. Rev. F. M. Johnson, the present pastor, succeeded to the pastorate Jan. 1, 1904.

The splendid edifice in which the congregation now worships was dedicated in December, 1887. The lots which it occupies were purchased in 1886 for $10,000 and the same year ground was broken for the new structure, which was completed and furnished at a cost of



The Swedish Mission Church, Orleans and Whiting Streets

$35,000. A parsonage also was built, and the property of the congregation is valued at $60,000.

Simultaneously with that on the north side, the Mission Friends started a movement on the south side. Meetings were held in a hall on Archer avenue until after Rev. E. A. Skogsbergh had been called from Sweden to labor in this field, when the attendance reached a point where it was found necessary to make other arrangements. Funds were secured through Skogsbergh's efforts and in the summer of 1878 a tabernacle measuring 90 by 70 feet was erected on a piece of ground comprising three ordinary building lots.

Rev. Johan Magnus Sanngren

Johan Magnus Sanngren was born in Alsheda parish, Smaland, Sweden, July 4, 1837. He remained on his father's farm until the age of twenty, when after his conversion he entered Rev. Ahlberg's seminary at Ahlsborg, Småland. He preached while a student, and after having finished the course of instruction, he labored fruitfully for five years as a preacher in his native province. In 1868 he emigrated, reaching Chicago in September. Appearing in the pulpit of the Immanuel Church, he impressed favorably those not contented with the average Augustana minister. After having lived for a short period in Altona, and preached in the Lutheran churches roundabout, Sanngren was called to the newly organized mission society in Chicago, which, upon its subsequent organization as the North Side Mission



Rev. Johan Magnus Sanngren

Church, retained him as its pastor until the year 1877. Seeking to improve his impaired health by a change of climate, he removed to Red Wing, Minn., in the fall of that year, upon a call to the local Mission Church. Here his condition grew worse, and after a period of confinement to the sick-bed Rev. Sanngren passed from this life Sept. 26, 1878, survived by his wife and son.

Sanngren was a pioneer of the Mission church movement in this country and the first regular pastor of the first organized church of that denomination. When the Mission Synod was organized in 1873, Sanngren was chosen its head, and held the presidency until his death. At the synodical meeting in Bethesda, Saunders county, Neb., in May,

1878, he preach what proved to be his farewell sermon to the church body he had so faithfully served.

Sanngren has been described as a man of rich gifts but of peculiar temperament and odd manners in the pulpit. He often spiced his sermons with a dash of humor and punctuated them with violent gesticulation. Some would take offense at his manner and reject the course on account of the dish in which it was served. Far from defending his eccentricities, he regretted them, but as they were temperamental, he strived in vain to overcome these faults. But he was sincere and free from affectation, and those who knew him best lost sight of his shortcomings in their appreciation of his worth. If the pulpit humorist drew smiles from his hearers, it was apparently without intent, for the next moment he would hurl a thunderbolt of divine truth with a vigor that bespoke intense seriousness.

Rev. John A. Peterson

John A. Peterson, one of the first preachers among the Mission Friends in this country, was born March 24, 1838, in Ljunga parish, Smaland, Sweden. In his infancy he lost his mother by death. After



Rev. John A. Peterson

attending common school, he was apprenticed to a shoemaker at fourteen years of age and at nineteen began to ply that trade on his own account. He was converted at the age of twenty-one. In 1862 he removed to Svenarum, where he was married to Anna Sofia Asp. After two years they moved to Jönköping where Peterson opened a shoe shop. He was now called by the Mission Society of Jönköping to aid in its

work through preaching and colportage of religious books and tracts.

In April, 1868, Peterson emigrated with his family, and reached Chicago May 20th. Here he took a prominent part in the work of the Mission Friends, then recently begun, and he holds an honored place among the early preachers of the Mission Church in Chicago. Responding to a call from Des Moines, Ia., Peterson removed from Chicago in the fall of 1871, shortly after the fire. He served as pastor of the Mission Church of Des Moines for a period of eight years with unqualified success. His next removal was to the Salem Church, a country congregation in Burt county, Nebraska, which remained in his charge for twenty-four years. With his wife he is now living in the city of Oakland, while his sons are cultivating a farm owned by him in the same county. He resigned the pastorate several years ago, but continues to preach occasionally. Rev. Peterson is revered as one of the fathers of the Mission Church, to which he has given the best efforts of a long and useful life. He has been a member of the directors of the Mission Covenant and was often called to offices of honor and trust in the various branches of its activity.

Rev. Erik August Skogsbergh

In 1876 the Mission Friends of Chicago and elsewhere were stirred to religious activity as never before, chiefly by the virile evangelistic work of one man—Rev. Erik August Skogsbergh. He had just come over from Sweden to assist Rev. Sanngren, but soon became the leading factor in a notable revival. Skogsbergh, who was born at Elga, Vermland, June 30, 1850, and was pursuing studies at Jönköping when called to Chicago, took up the work here with a will and energy remarkable in so young a man. His first sermon in Chicago was preached on the day of his arrival, Oct. 10, 1876. With a burning zeal for the salvation of men's souls, he at once kindled his hearers, and people went to hear this "Swedish Moody" in ever growing numbers. Skogsbergh proved both a preaching and a singing evangelist, who wielded a twofold influence over his audiences.

He was assigned a field on the south side, where the north side church had conducted a mission since 1871. From there the revival resulting from Skogsbergh's sermons and songs spread to the north side. From the mission a separate congregation was soon formed, named the Tabernacle Church, and Skogsbergh became its pastor. The mission-house having become inadequate, a large structure, known as the Mission Tabernacle, was erected in 1877, where Skogsbergh continued to preach to large audiences for upwards of eight years. His reputation meanwhile spread to the other mission churches, and during the same period he was in constant demand for evangelistic work in

other fields. In January, 1884, he removed to Minneapolis and his labors there as pastor of the Tabernacle Church for almost a quarter century have been richly blessed. He there founded a school of which



Swedish Mission Tabernacle, Chicago

North Park College in Chicago is a continuation, and subsequent to the removal of this institution he has been engaged in educational work at Minneapolis. As a preacher and religious leader Skogsbergh for

thirty years has held a pre-eminent position in the Mission Church of the United States.

The Mission Movement in Galesburg

The Swedish Lutheran Church of Galesburg had been organized with some difficulty, and formed from rather heterogeneous elements. Part of the membership consisted of persons of free church tendencies from Sweden, who had been fostered among the Readers and mission societies in the old country. Hasselquist, its first permanent pastor, made concessions to this element. This church did not as a whole sanction the act of the Swedish Lutherans in leaving the Synod of Northern Illinois to form the Augustana Synod. When Hasselquist was succeeded by Dahlsten in 1863, the services became too ritualistic to suit the liberalists, who now began to gather in private for devotional services led by laymen. Among the initiators was S. W. Sundberg. Warnings against the separatists did not have the desired effect, and the active opposition of the pastor seemed rather to hasten actual separation. The feud continued for several years, not without uncharitable bitterness on both sides. To the annual convention of the Augustana Synod in 1868 the congregation sent through its lay delegate a protest against the ritualistic order of services prescribed by the synod and certain other regulations not conforming to the ideas of this church. One of its demands was that the lay delegate should be admitted to the closed session of the ministerium. Rev. Hasselquist and one or two other pastors were sent to Galesburg to reprimand the rebellious church and admonish it to remain true to Lutheran doctrines and usages. All but about 40 members submitted, and no further action was taken at the time.

About this time a lay preacher named Bergensköld, who had been educated at the Fjellstedt school in Upsala and served as preacher at Count Stackelberg's factory in Öfverum, came to Galesburg. His friends asked that he might be allowed to preach occasionally in the church, but when the pastor refused him his pulpit, Bergensköld's friends, several of whom were on the board of deacons, arranged private devotional services, led by Bergensköld. Alarmed by the spread of the "New Evangelism" in his church, the pastor called in Hasselquist, Carlsson of Chicago and Swensson of Andover, who administered a second reprimand.

In August five deacons and several other members met for counsel in the home of Olof Johnson, the Sunday school superintendent, Bergensköld being absent. Johnson declared the situation intolerable and announced his decision to leave the church. Others shared his views, and then and there it was resolved to form a mission society

modeled on those in Sweden. The organization took place at a subsequent meeting, when about forty persons signed for membership. A hall was procured, where Bergenskold now preached regularly.

The need of a legally incorporated church and a regularly ordained minister was soon felt. Bergenskold was only a lay preacher, who had no inclination to join any particular denomination. Many of the new society still felt kindly toward the Synod of Northern Illinois,



Rev. S. W. Sundberg

and favored joining that body and calling the aforementioned Rev. Carl Anderson as their pastor. The proposition and call were submitted in November, at the synodical convention, and after the society had adopted the confession and constitution of the synod it joined that body under the name of the Second Evangelical Lutheran Church of Galesburg. Rev. Anderson, after having been duly elected, succeeded to the pastorate upon Bergenskold's departure for Iowa in April, 1869.

At first the church held strictly to the purity rule, but after joining the synod it became more lax in the admission of members. Years of contention on this point followed and not until after the year 1876, when Rev. J. G. Sjöquist assumed pastoral charge, was any effective attempt made to weed out the worldly-minded members. This process was completed by his successor, Rev. E. G. Hjerpe, whose efforts resulted in the expulsion of many. This church, now known as the Mission Church of Galesburg, is the second oldest in the denomination. Shortly after Rev. Anderson's succession to the pastorate in 1869, a

building lot was purchased for $1,200, on which a church edifice was erected at a cost of about $10,000. This building is the one still in use.

Rev. Carl Anderson

Rev. Anderson was a man af more than ordinary ability. His American education and his familiarity with conditions in this country placed him in the forefront of the Scandinavian churchmen of his period. In 1871, while pastor in Galesburg, he started a church paper, "Zions Banér," which for a time was the mouthpiece of the Mission Friends and did much to advance their interests. Later it changed its tone and became an advocate of the plans and interests of the General Synod and more especially the Synod of Northern Illinois anent the Scandinavians. Prior thereto, Anderson's paper had, however, earned the thanks of the Mission Friends as the first to champion their cause.

The proposal to organize the mission societies or churches into a general body originated with Anderson. His secondary purpose was to make the new organization a part of the General Synod, but finding this idea unpopular among the brethren, he declared his willingness to aid in forming an independent synod of the Mission Friends. When some such measure was proposed at a meeting in Princeton in July, 1871, action was deferred for fear that it would lead to a worldly church.

In 1873, after having lost part of his prestige among the Mission Friends, Anderson left Galesburg for Keokuk, Ia., where a Swedish church of the Synod of Northern Illinois had been established in 1870. Here he started a school for the training of preachers, which was the forerunner of Ansgarius College in Knoxville.

The Mission Church of Princeton

The beginning of the mission church at Princeton was a family named Lundholm, man and wife, who arrived there in 1867. They began missionating among their countrymen after the manner of the Readers of Sweden, to whom they had belonged, thereby gathering a little group of persons who later united into a mission society. In the fall of the next year, C. P. Mellgren, a lay preacher, arrived. He was born at Torpa, Småland, March 7, 1836. Converted at the age of twenty-one, he began to testify in intimate circles of the faithful and was a few years later assigned as colporteur by the Sunnerbo Mission Society. He labored as such for six years prior to his emigration. After his coming to Princeton, where he was dependent on the labor of his own hands for his support, he continued preaching, meetings being usually conducted in a schoolhouse outside the city. On the

14th of December, 1868, there was organized a mission society of 30 members, which in 1871 was incorporated as a church. The second general meeting of the various mission societies was held in Princeton in the fall of 1869, the first having taken place in Chicago in July of the same year.

While in Princeton, Mellgren extended his labors to other places in Illinois, including Altona, Geneseo, Galesburg and others. He often undertook long missionary journeys to Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri and Kansas. In 1873 he removed to Osage City, Kans., where he has ever since resided. His successor was P. Wedin, born at Agunnaryd, Smaland, March 1, 1835, died in Aurora, Neb., April 11, 1907. Wedin came to Princeton direct from Sweden in 1870, and at first obtained work on the railroad. He preached on occasion, prior to Mellgren's leaving, and subsequently filled his place for seven years, during which time the Mission church flourished, and became one of the strongest of the early ones of the denomination. Wedin was engaged for several years as traveling missionary of the Mission Synod, and during that period preached the gospel throughout the country from coast to coast.

Wedin opposed the organization of the Mission Covenant in 1885, demanding a strict and clearly defined confession in place of the one proposed. Yet, when the Mission Synod to which he belonged virtually joined the Covenant in a body, Wedin automatically became a member, but withdrew from his former brethren and for a short time was a member of the Augustana Synod. During his last years he belonged to no church body, but continued to preach to little bands of followers at places in Texas, Kansas and Nebraska, where he lived.

The Rockford Field

A little group of Mission Friends in Rockford were wont to hold private meetings there as early as 1868. The same year P. Undeen came there from Sweden and went to work for a neighboring farmer, meanwhile forming the acquaintance of these people and eventually becoming their preacher. While working as a painter in the city, he acted as pastor of the little flock, which was not formally organized as a church until 1875. The first man to devote himself exclusively to the charge of this church was Rev. P. J. Lindell.

Undeen, who was in a way the founder of this church, was born at Undenäs, Vestergötland, Aug. 13, 1835. He is known to have attended Rev. Ahlberg's seminary prior to 1865, whereupon he worked in Vermland and elsewhere as a Bible colporteur and lay preacher in the service of Evangeliska Fosterlandsstiftelsen. After the loss of his wife, whom he married in 1866, he pursued studies at the same school

for another year prior to his emigration. Engaged as a traveling missionary by the first conference of Mission Friends, Undeen soon after entered the service of the General Synod of the American Lutherans, and was ordained by that body in 1870. The change is thought to have been prompted by lack of support from the Mission Church. He removed to Swift county, Minnesota, and his labors in the northwest bore rich fruit. The founding of the Mission churches in Red Wing and Minneapolis, as also in Lund, Wis., is credited to his efforts. Undeen joined in organizing the Mission Synod in 1873, and devoted his last years to the service of that body. He passed away at Lund, Wis., Feb. 9, 1876.

The Swedish Lutheran Mission Synod

As the movement grew and groups of Mission Friends were formed in various Swedish localities, the need of union and co-operation became apparent, and at a meeting held at Princeton in 1871, it was proposed to unite all Mission Friends in a synod, the initiative being taken by the North Side Mission Church. Acting on the suggestion, a little group of preachers and laymen met at Keokuk, Iowa, and on May 22, 1873, organized the Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Mission Synod. On the same day the synod was incorporated under the laws of the state of Iowa, the incorporators being the following five persons: Peter Englund, Charles Anderson, C. G. Svenson, S. W. Sundberg and C. A. Björk. Of these, Englund, Svenson and Björk were elected trustees for the first year. In the articles of incorporation the object and business of the organization was stated to be: "To organize and govern churches, to educate and ordain ministers of the Gospel, to promote the cause of home and foreign missions, to hold synodical meetings in the state of Iowa and elsewhere in the United States, and to promote the preaching of the Gospel therein." In all matters specified in the articles of incorporation the synod was to be governed by the constitution adopted. In Art. II of said constitution, the synod proclaimed its adherence not only to the three oldest Symbola, the Apostolic, the Nicene and the Athanasian, but also to the Augsburg Confession, thereby affirming allegiance to the Lutheran Church in principle. By way of reassurance, the last article stipulated that said Art. II was to stand unaltered forever. The representation at the synodical meetings was to be by delegations of three, the minister and two lay members, from each and every congregation having adopted the synod's constitution.

Subsequent events in the Mission Synod may be briefly summarized. In 1874 the synod began publishing a religious monthly, called "Missions-Wännen," patterned after "Pietisten," published

in Sweden by C. O. Rosenius, a paper extensively read by the Devotionalists in the old country. Later a songbook, entitled "Samlingssanger," was published, which was in general use throughout the synod for a number of years. At the synodical meeting of 1879, held in Chicago May 27th to June 2nd, it was recommended that the individual congregations adopt the plans and practices of church government prevailing in the Mission Covenant of Sweden. At this same



Rev. Carl A. Bjork

meeting the council of the Ansgarius Synod, a Swedish church organization similar to the Mission Synod, the chief difference being the latter's greater freedom in receiving members, proposed a union of the two synods. A plan of union, based on the constitution and by-laws of the Mission Covenant in Sweden and conditioned on the dissolution of both synods, was laid on the table after some discussion, the matter being postponed on the ground that the time was not yet ripe for such a step.

In 1881 the Tabernacle Church on the south side in Chicago withdrew from the Mission Synod. This action was the result of agitation against all forms of organization or federation of local

congregations or societies into larger church bodies, those holding this view maintaining that such organizations are contrary to biblical precept and endanger and hamper Christian life and liberty. Agitation on this point for years finally divided the Mission Friends into two camps, the anti-organization people being thenceforth known as the Free Mission Friends.

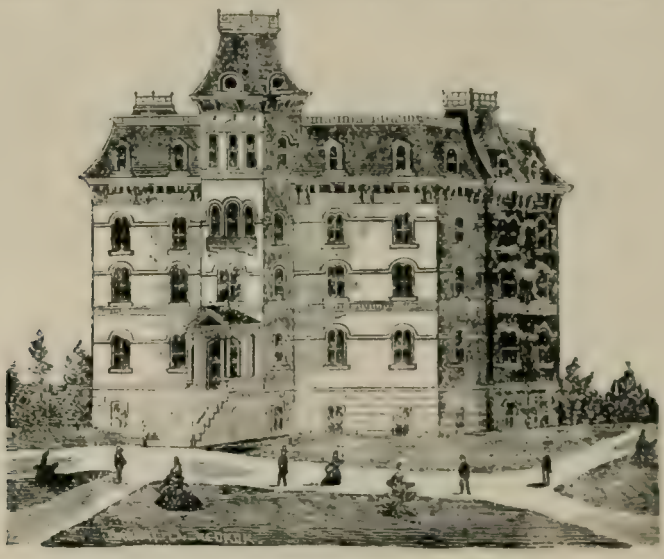
In the late fall of 1884, a circular authorized by the Tabernacle Church was issued to the ministers of the Ansgarius and Mission synods, inquiring whether they desired a general meeting in Chicago for the purpose of devising plans of unification. The proposition was discussed at the subsequent meeting of the directors of the Mission Synod, held at Randolph, Kans., Dec. 4—8, and a resolution was passed fixing Feb. 18, 1885, as the date of the proposed meeting, also stipulating that the sessions be equally divided between the Tabernacle and the North Side Mission Church. At this meeting the proposition carried and a new church body, entitled the Swedish Evangelical Mission Covenant of America, came into existence. The two synods were not thereby dissolved, the question of joining the new organization being left to the individual congregations.

The Ansgarius Synod

The Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Ansgarius Synod of the United States was organized at Galesburg, Ill., May 18, 1874. The Mission Church in that city, organized in 1868 as an independent Lutheran congregation under the name of the Second Swedish Lutheran Church, had called as its minister Rev. C. Anderson. He was of Danish descent but was educated in this country and had worked as a Scandinavian missionary under the auspices of the Synod of Northern Illinois.

In 1873 he started a theological school in Keokuk, Ia., and was one of the men who organized the Mission Synod in that city the same year. He had expected this synod to become a Scandinavian department or district of the Synod of Northern Illinois, but finding the brethren unwilling to affiliate with that body, he withdrew before the close of the meeting. Several mission churches already belonging to the Synod of Northern Illinois did not join the Mission Synod. Rev. Anderson, desirous of obtaining funds for a school building, issued a circular in English setting forth the purposes and plans of his institute. A copy fell into the hands of James Knox, a wealthy banker of Knoxville, Ill., who summoned Anderson to his home and offered to donate $12,000 toward a Swedish institution of learning to be located in the city of Knoxville. The donor stipulated that the teaching was to conform to the professed doctrines of the church under whose auspices the school was to be established, otherwise it should become the proper-

ty of the city. His offer was accepted, and the city subscribed $5,000 more, while the sum of $3,000 was raised among the Swedish people. Anderson, realizing the need of an organization to back him and the institution, became the prime mover in organizing the Ansgarius Synod. This was done at a conference of the Swedish churches of the Synod of Northern Illinois, held in Galesburg May 16–20. Anderson and C. J. Lindahl from Brantford, Kans., seem to have been the only ministers present. Among the laymen was J. Anjou, a teacher in Anderson's school at Keokuk, who was chosen president of the new organization. The synod affirmed its adherence to the Augsburg Con-



Ansgarius College, Knoxville

fession and adopted a constitution very similar in other respects to that of the Mission Synod. But Anderson's arbitrary action aroused suspicion among the Mission Friends. A misunderstanding between the two synods existed for a time, and petty quarrels among the leaders and ministers on either side forced the two organizations farther and farther apart. The breach was still further widened when the Ansgarius Synod officially joined the Lutheran General Synod.

In the course of a few years, however, the differences were so far obliterated that the Ansgarius Synod, at its fourth annual meeting, held in Galesburg June 5-12, 1878, resolved to invite the co-operation of the Mission Synod with especial reference to the educational work carried on by the Ansgarius College at Knoxville.

The religious revival in Sweden was intensified in the seventies by the great agitation against the Lutheran doctrine of atonement and

justification, led by P. Waldenström, a prominent free church man, whose views of the atonement have been briefly stated by himself as follows: "The Scriptures teach that no change took place in God's disposition towards man in consequence of his sin; that, therefore, it was not God who needed to be reconciled to man, but it was man who needed to be reconciled to God; and that, consequently, reconciliation is a work which proceeds from God and is directed towards man, and aims not to appease God, but to cleanse man from sin, and to restore him to a right relation with God."

The movement had a similar effect on this side of the water, the powerful preaching of Skogsbergh, Björk, and others, together with the defection of Waldenströmians from the regular Lutheran congregations, combining to bring large numbers of converts into the Mission churches. Waldenström's views were very generally accepted by the Missions Friends. His rejection of dogmas, confessions, and "man-made rules," as being needless, unauthorized and prejudicial to a correct interpretation of the Holy Scriptures and to the Christian life, caused both the Ansgarius and the Mission synod to amend their constitutions by inserting in the respective articles dealing with the creed the specification that the Augsburg Confession was to be "interpreted in accordance with the Bible." The revival movement had a tendency to unify the Mission Friends spiritually, and thus paved the way for organic union. At the annual meeting in Moline, May 30, 1879, the Ansgarius Synod had reached a new point of contact with the Mission Synod, according to the statement of the president that true Christianity was now a requisite both for membership and participation in the breaking of bread. At the same occasion the result of the overtures for consolidation was reported. The answer of the Mission Synod was favorable in sentiment but pointed out that, in the absence of hearty sympathy and true harmony on which the outward union should be based, a consolidation had better be postponed until the members of the Mission Synod churches themselves should ask for such a move. In its records the Ansgarius Synod made note of the fact that many churches in both synods favored a union based on the constitution and by-laws of the Mission Covenant of Sweden, and urged the remainder to join in the movement, whereby all cause for further strife would be eliminated.

In 1880 the synod adopted a new constitution essentially different from the one in force. The article affirming adherence to the Augsburg Confession was practically annulled by an amendment, in disregard of a specific constitutional provision that said article should never be changed. To get around this legal obstacle, the amendment was made a separate article.

The control and management of the Ansgarius College was now entrusted to an association of individuals within and without the synod, for a term of three years, Anderson and his associate teacher, K. Erixon, having disagreed and in turn left the institution. The association engaged J. G. Princell as head professor and carried on the work until the spring of 1884, when it resigned its stewardship for lack of encouragement and financial support. Two years before, the Ansgarius Synod had severed its connection with the General Synod.

The constitutional changes proved unsatisfactory and led to further difficulties. The regular Lutherans pointed out the falsity of the synod's position in not living up to its professed creed, the Augsburg Confession, while the Free Mission people attacked it on account of its alleged adherence to that creed. Still the Ansgarius people dared not summarily dispose of the troublesome Art. II for fear of invalidating the incorporation and losing its property, consisting chiefly of the college at Knoxville. At the annual convention in 1883, in Jamestown, N. Y., a committee was appointed to ascertain the legal status of the case. In the event that desired changes could not be made without jeopardizing the corporation, the Synod was to be dissolved at its next meeting. When the synod convened in Galesburg the following year, the committee reported, on the authority of the secretary of state at Springfield, that everything in the constitution, except Art. II, might be altered without hazard, but that any change in said article would annul the charter. In its dilemma the synod tentatively adopted an entirely new constitution, drawn up by J. G. Princell and A. Larson, changing the name to "The Swedish Mission Covenant of America" and adopting the Bible as the only perfect guide in matters of faith and living. Princell himself, who had previously withdrawn from the synod, agreed to abide by the drafted constitution at the sacrifice of certain personal convictions, he being opposed to any denominational organization whatsoever.

The synod re-assembled at Worcester, Mass., in August the same year to take final action on the constitution. Further disintegration had set in, aided by doctrinal dissensions and personal differences between Princell and J. Hagström, the former leading the ultra free-church, or anti-organization, forces, the latter belonging to the party that favored organization. No agreement could be reached, and for the second time it was decided to dissolve the synod at its next annual meeting. It was voted to turn the school property over to the city of Knoxville on the first day of September, shortly after adjournment. The synod met at Moline the following May, to wind up its affairs, and on the second day of June, 1885, the Swedish Evangelical Lutheran

Ansgarius Synod passed out of existence. At the synodical meeting in Worcester, Princell had again proposed the forming of some sort of a general body, but the suggestion found little favor with the delegates, who by this time were tired of the strife and dissension that had characterized the synod throughout its existence.

The Swedish Evangelical Mission Covenant

The convention that gave birth to the Mission Covenant was not devoid of travail and partisan bitterness. At the opening of the meeting 55 ministers and lay delegates were present, seven more arriving later. Rev. C. A. Björk was elected chairman. The first question raised was who should be entitled to vote. The call having been understood to include all Mission Friends interested in the question of union one way or another, several anti-organization men came to the meeting, chief among whom were Rev. J. G. Princell, leader of the Free Mission Friends, and John Martenson, publisher of "Chicago-Bladet," the organ of that movement. By raising the question whether he, as a pastor and elder, although not a member of either synod nor a duly elected delegate from any independent Mission church, would be entitled to a seat in the convention, Princell precipitated a warm debate, resulting in a resolution seating all members of the respective synods, but only such ministers and delegates of independent churches as favored the proposed union. Princell declared himself in favor of the unification of all Christians on a biblical basis, meaning thereby unity in faith and good works, without any organic connection, but the convention held that this did not bring him within the terms of the call and, putting the question to a vote, unseated him by a vote of 18 to 6, less than half of the delegates voting. Later, by a vote af 11 ayes to 17 noes, the convention refused to reconsider its action. Princell then withdrew, explaining that he knew very well he could not be seated according to the letter, but only according to the spirit, of the call issued for the meeting. The principal, though not the technical, objection to seating Princell was his determined effort to set at naught the proposed union by relentless agitation against it for months before the meeting. In a series of articles in "Chicago-Bladet," of which paper he was then the assistant editor, he denounced the organization movement in unmeasured terms, going so far as to characterize the combining of congregations into a synod, union or federation of any kind whatever as "lawlessness from a scriptural point of view; rebellion against the church of God and its local authorities; ecclesiastical communism; an unchaste relation to sister congregations, and faithlessness and harlotry in relation to the betrothed bridegroom of the church, Jesus Christ." These words were quoted from his own

paper in support of the position taken by the convention, which, however, stood ready to reverse its action on condition that Princell would withdraw his charges against the brethren supporting the movement. This he refused to do; on the contrary, he persevered in his antagonism and it was largely due to his stand and the treatment he received at the hands of the convention that quite a number of free churches refused to join the Covenant and have remained independent to this day. In justice to the Covenant, it should be added that at a sub-



Rev. John G. Princell

sequent meeting it admitted its mistake by apologizing to Princell for its action.

Having determined the basis of representation, the convention proceeded to discuss the main issue. Owing to the difference in opinion as to church organizations, a preliminary discussion was held on the significant subject: "Is it right or wrong for Christian congregations and societies to combine in their endeavor to further the kingdom of God, and on what basis can such union be effected?" The meeting answered the question as follows: "A union of Christian congregations ought to be accomplished on a scriptural basis, among such Christian believers as have confidence in and true love for one another and are actuated by a desire for peace and harmony." At the third session, the question of organizing was put to a formal vote

By a rising vote the proposition was almost unanimously carried, only two or three persons remaining seated when the ayes were called for.

A constitution was adopted, closely corresponding to that of the Mission Covenant in Sweden. Its striking resemblance to that proposed for the Ansgarius Synod by Princell less than a year before bears evidence to the fact that the dissension between the Free Mission Friends and those forming the Covenant was based not so much on principles as on quibbles and personal differences.

The Swedish Evangelical Mission Covenant of America, now organized, recognizes no creed or confession beyond the words of the Bible itself; it consists of congregations and associations, whose members are required to be converts as a condition of admittance. In most other respects, the Covenant is not different from other bodies or synods, except in its lack of solidity and compactness, owing to the fact that it officially includes independent churches and mission societies as well as those having joined the Covenant in the prescribed order.

The Mission Synod, after ascertaining the wishes of the individual churches at a meeting in Des Moines, Ia., in May, 1885, joined the Covenant in a body, while those of the dissolved Ansgarius Synod and independent congregations were required to make individual application. Many of the latter stood aloof, as did the majority of the Free Mission churches. The Mission Synod not having been formally dissolved before joining the Covenant, a number of its ministers resolved to maintain the old organization by holding a legal meeting each year. They assembled in Phelps Centre, Neb., in 1886, and there decided to meet only when it would be found necessary. The attempt to keep the synod alive was apparently due to dissent from the opinion of the majority and doubt as to the future of the Covenant, but the precaution proved needless. No meeting has been held since 1886, and the synod is considered legally dead.

The Covenant held its first annual meeting in Princeton, Sept. 25-30, 1885, the delegates being the same as at the organization meeting in Chicago. John Martenson, who appeared with credentials from the Swedish Christian Church of North Star Hall, Chicago, signed by Princell, was refused a vote on the ground that the church he represented had not applied, and did not wish to apply for membership in the Covenant. Martenson was, however, made advisory member. At the meeting 46 congregations were admitted, and the Christian Association of the Northwest, organized in 1884, was given two delegates, its congregations being required to seek admittance singly. Ministers of independent congregations known to be well disposed toward the Covenant were admitted at their own request and registered in the roll of ministers. A total of 38 ministers were matriculated

at this time, several newcomers being licensed to preached for one year. In order to further the mission work it was recommended that the churches within a certain state or geographical division be organized into conferences and these be subdivided into mission districts. Such conferences, called associations, have since been formed in several states, but only those of Minnesota and of Illinois have been subdivided into districts.



The Swedish Mission Church of Moline

One of the most important questions dealt with was that of co-operation with the Swedish Congregationalists in the control and support of a theological seminary. The Chicago Theological Seminary having promised to open a Swedish department and to support a teacher to be selected by the Covenant, Prof. F. Risberg from Sweden had been called at the suggestion of the Covenant's school committe and had already accepted the position, and this arrangement was now sanctioned by the Covenant. The Covenant also decided to incorporate and selected the following seven men to carry out the decision, viz., C. A. Björk, J. O. Heggen, A. Hallner, Swen Youngqvist, A. Larson,

C. R. Carlson and F. G. Häggqvist. It was resolved to establish a home for orphans, poor widows and invalids, and H. Palmblad was appointed to solicit funds in Chicago for the proposed institution. At the following annual meeting, held in Rockford, it was reported that a charity home had been established at Bowmanville, Chicago, with twelve inmates.

At the annual meeting held in Chicago in September, 1888, Rev. Princell, claiming to represent the general opinion among the Free Mission Friends, proposed a constitutional change, permitting three classes of members in the Covenant, which change, he alleged, would open the door for himself and his followers. While maintaining his views on church organization, he admitted that even the Free Mission Friends now recognized the need of some form of organization. The Covenant respectfully declined to adopt the change, at the same time apologizing for the treatment accorded Princell three years before.

Owing to a desire on the part of many Mission Friends in each of the three groups, the Covenant in 1905 took action looking to the unification of the Covenant, the Free Mission and the Swedish Congregational churches. It was recommended that a committee of seven peacemakers be appointed to confer on the matter and plan the proposed union. Of these, two were to be appointed by each of the three interested parties, the seventh to be chosen by these six and to act as chairman of the committee. Representatives were appointed to act for each of the three groups, and at the call of this committee a union conference was held in Chicago in the fall of 1906. This conference recommended the establishment of a common divinity school in place of the three existing ones, and suggested as additional factors for the promotion of union, frequent interchange of pulpits and union revival meetings, common evangelists for the home and foreign mission fields, common district conferences for the discussion of questions of faith and doctrine, and common religious textbooks and hymnals. The recommendations of the committee have subsequently been discussed at the various annual conventions, but no decision has been reached, and the main question of unification still remains open.

North Park College

The idea of establishing an institution of learning within the Swedish Mission Covenant is as old as the Covenant itself. In its articles of incorporation the founding and maintenance of schools is specifically mentioned as one of its prime objects. The first opportunity to realize this purpose was offered the same year that the Covenant was formed, when the Congregational theological seminary in Chicago agreed to establish a Swedish department to be partly



North Park College
President's Residence — Dormitory — Main Building

under the control of the Covenant. This was done, but the arrangement did not prove entirely satisfactory, and the idea of founding a school distinctly its own was never abandoned by the Covenant.

The first step leading to the establishment of such an institution was taken in 1891, at the annual meeting in Phelps, Neb., the Covenant resolving to take over a school conducted by Rev. E. A. Skogsbergh and David Nyvall in Minneapolis, combining theological courses with instruction in general subjects and business training. For the next two years the Covenant maintained this school at its old location, with comparative success. In 1894, at the end of the second year, the total



North Park College—General View

attendance was 125, including 31 in the theological department, a number not again reached until very recently. The school was in a sound condition financially, with a small surplus in the treasury.

These advantages were outweighed, however, by the difficulty in obtaining the necessary buildings in Minneapolis and the offer of substantial aid from people in Chicago, on condition that the institution be removed to this city. Accordingly the removal was brought about, and the school was located in North Park, Chicago, in the year 1894, and named North Park College. A tract of land was secured and subdivided to be sold in building lots for the benefit of the institution.

The inner growth of the school did not keep pace with the material development during the next few years. Year by year the attendance

fell off, until in 1899 the lowest mark was reached, namely, a total of 51 students in all departments and but fourteen in the divinity school. But from that time on there has been a uniform increase, to 62 in 1900, 83 in 1901, 107 in 1902, about 150 in 1903, and 204 in 1907, followed by a decrease to a figure below 190 in the last year.

The institution now comprises, besides the theological department, a complete academy, a business school and a conservatory of music, the collegiate department to be completed by the adding of college classes as fast as the growth of the institution warrants.

There are three buildings on the college premises, a main building, a dormitory, and the president's residence. The grounds comprise 8½ acres. The present value of the school property is $56,800.

The number of teachers, which was six at the time of the removal to Chicago, has since reached as high as fourteen, and is at present twelve. These, with the subjects taught respectively, are: A. W. Fredrickson, A. M., English language and literature, and mathematics; A. Mellander, Old Testament, church history and systematic theology; Rev. Carl Hanson, New Testament, homiletics and mental science; C. J. Wilson, A. M., Latin and natural science; Alfred N. Ahnfeldt, Greek, German, Swedish and history; Lena Sahlstrom, English and arithmetic; Mrs. Blanche Waldenstrom, piano; Esther Wallgren, piano; C. F. Fredrickson, violin; F. J. Hollenbeck, English language and literature; A. E. Anderson, mandolin and guitar.

Prof. David Nyvall was president of North Park College up to the close of the school year in 1904. After having served as acting president in the interval, Prof. A. W. Fredrickson was regularly elected to the position by the Covenant in 1905. The school is under the control of a board of twenty-three directors, elected by the Covenant, and Rev. John Hagstrom serves as business manager and treasurer. An organization named the Auxiliary Society has lent material aid in raising funds for the institution in years past.

The Swedish Covenant Hospital and Home of Mercy

It was not included in the original plans and purposes of the institution now known as the Swedish Covenant Hospital and Home of Mercy to make it a regular hospital to which the public in general might have access, but rather a home for the aged and destitute. The idea of founding such a home must be credited to Mr. Henry Palmblad, for several years city missionary under the auspices of the North Side Mission Church. In his missionary work he met with many of his countrymen and brethren in the faith who were homeless, destitute and sick. Moved by compassion for these, he went before the Swedish Mission Covenant at its annual meeting at Prince-

ton, in September, 1885, and presented his cause. His project met with decided approval, and a committee to select and purchase a site for the proposed home of mercy was at once appointed, consisting of the following Chicago gentlemen, Revs. C. A. Björk, F. M. Johnson, J. P. Eagle, and Messrs. H. Palmblad, S. Youngquist and C. G. Peterson.

This committee at once began its work with the result that the property of one Mr. Becker, situated on West Foster ave., in Bowmanville, within the city limits of Chicago, was purchased. This property consisted of three acres of ground, a two story brick house and a



The Swedish Covenant Hospital and Home of Mercy, Bowmanville

stable. The price was $5,500, of which $2,500 was to be paid May 1, 1886, and the balance in annual installments of $1,000. So well did the committee succeed in raising funds that on the following May first the entire balance of the purchase money was paid. Additional contributions proved adequate for repairing and remodeling the buildings at a cost of $1,400, and the purchase of furnishings and chattels for $1,200.

In the early part of May, 1886, the home was opened for the acceptance of wards and patients. Shortly afterward everything was in readiness for the public opening, and in the presence of a large number of its friends and supporters the institution was solemnly dedicated on the 27th of June, Rev. C. A. Björk delivering the dedicatory address.

It did not take a great while until the Home was filled and unable to accept all who sought admission. The committee went to the annual meeting at Galesburg, in 1890, with a proposition to enlarge it, and the Covenant authorized such enlargement as the treasury and

additional funds received for the purpose might warrant, and a loan in addition thereto not to exceed $2,000. At the next annual meeting of the Covenant, held in September, 1891, the president of the home was able to report that a large two-story addition had been erected and improvements made in the other buildings, all at a cost of somewhat over $7,000.

From the Swedish Home of Mercy has developed the Swedish Covenant Hospital. Many of the inmates of the former soon after their arrival were found to be in need of medical treatment or surgical operations. The home had enlisted the services of several able physicians, including Dr. C. W. Johnson and Dr. F. I. Brown, and these men soon attracted patients from Chicago and elsewhere. Although the home was enlarged in 1891, yet the many applications for admission to the hospital department created a demand for a hospital building, well equipped and modern in all its appointments.

In the meantime the question of raising funds for such a building was much pondered, but several years passed before anything could be done. Two financially able persons had held out promises of substantial aid toward the erection of such a building, one preferring that it be located in Lake View. At the Covenant's annual meeting in Duluth in 1901 this matter was taken up, resulting in definite action. A committee was appointed to select a site and confer with the would-be donors. It developed, however, that these parties withdrew their offers because of the decision of the committee to build the hospital adjacent to the Home of Mercy. Prior to their decision, however, the committee had issued a general appeal to the people of the Mission Covenant for means wherewith to purchase a new site, but the lack of response caused them to decide in favor of the old one. A definite decision to erect a hospital building on the grounds of the Home of Mercy was reached at the annual meeting of the Covenant at Galesburg, in 1902. Ground was broken for the new building early in October that year, and the cornerstone was laid on the nineteenth of the same month, Rev. K. F. Ohlson officiating and Prof. David Nyvall delivering the address. The building was completed during the ensuing winter, and was dedicated on May 31, 1903. The hospital is open not only to the people of the Swedish Mission Covenant, but it invites patronage from all denominations and nationalities.

The first superintendent or manager of the institution was Mr. Edward Johnson, and the first trained nurse, Miss Annie Anderson. Mr. Palmblad for many years was the president of the board of directors and general superintendent of the institution he had fathered. Dr. C. W. Johnson served as chief of the medical department for a long period.

The present personnel of the institution is as follows: medical staff, Drs. O. Th. Roberg, F. I. Brown and K. L. Thorsgaard; superintendent of nurses, Miss Ida C. L. Isaaeson; manager, Albin Johnson, successor of Rev. A. Lydell, who served for a number of years.

A training school for nurses is conducted, from which a class of trained nurses has been graduated each year since 1900.

The only large donation received by the institution was one of $2,500 from the late Louis Sand of Manistee, Michigan.

The hospital has accommodations for about 60 persons, besides the force of attendants, and an average of 40 to 50 wards are being cared for at the home. The institution during the last fiscal year had resources amounting to $21,310, including an income of $10,691 from paying patients. The present worth of the property is $46,350.

The Swedish Evangelical Free Church

Those Mission Friends who are opposed to a hard and fast general organization, whether it be local or general, have maintained local groups or societies in a number of localities ever since the beginning of the Mission Church as a specific Christian denomination in the United States. Many of them having been subjected to disciplinary measures and even persecution by the state church of Sweden, they had formed an aversion to everything savoring of established church authority and for that reason they were suspicious of every form of church organization, however liberal in scope. As they had held aloof from the Mission and the Ansgarius synods, so they shrank from affiliating with the Mission Covenant formed to take the place of the other two. Besides, there was a great deal of agitation on the subject, in which the very defenders of organization feared to commit themselves to too rigid a system, having but recently left the regular Lutheran Church as a protest against formalism, while the opposition went to extremes both in their denunciations of order and system and in their demand for liberty and a literal return to the customs and usages of the earliest Christians. Some even went so far as to frown on the very idea of binding the members of a local church by registering their names. Had they wished to join the Covenant, no creeds or dogmas stood in the way, for it pledged allegiance to no special creed or confession. And in matters of faith the Mission Friends were all one, being guided in the main by Waldenström's interpretation of the Bible on the subjects of atonement, justification, sanctification, baptism, eternal punishment and other essential teachings. It appears, therefore, that the main difference of opinion was not on doctrines and tenets, but on methods and practices. The Free Mission Friends, in maintaining that the local churches shall govern themselves and

be independent of others, really favor Congregationalism, while the Covenant Mission Friends combine Presbyterianism with Congregationalism.

The first sign of co-operation among the Free Mission Friends was a meeting held in Boone, Ia., Oct. 14-19, 1884, when a number of pastors gathered for Bible study and discussion of common interests. Six articles relating to the church, local and general, its functions, membership, etc., were agreed upon, printed and circulated among the congregations, who seem to have adopted the article without a vote, by tacit consent. A committee was appointed to arrange for a similar meeting the following year, its members being J. G. Princell, L. Lindquist, K. Erixon and John Martenson. For several years, Princell was the chairman of this committee, to which three members were added at the second annual meeting held in Minneapolis, in March, 1885. There Martenson was elected treasurer, an office subsequently held by him for more than fifteen years. The committee, elected each year, was merely to serve as an agency for the carrying on of mission work in home and foreign fields. After a couple of years, meetings were held semi-annually. In 1890, the Swedish-American Mission Society was organized, all men and women being admitted as members upon pledging themselves to give one dollar a year to the mission fund. The society existed only for a short time. In 1894, the sense of union had developed to the extent that a common name and title was adopted, the federation being thereafter known as The Swedish Evangelical Free Mission. At a pastoral conference, held May 24-27 of that year, a decisive step toward ordinary church organization was taken by the adoption of a set of by-laws, defining the doctrinal tenets, laying down rules for membership, providing for a set of officers and even going so far as to stipulate disciplinary measures. In several essential features, these by-laws are identical with corresponding provisions in the constitution of the Covenant, and as if to carry out the parallel, the meeting held at Chicago in October, 1896, adopted "Rules," which are practically a constitution, completing the organization of the federation of the churches, as the aforesaid by-laws had that of the ministerial association. Grown wise by experience, the Free Mission Friends have abandoned the theories of Princell as to organization and changed their attitude in various other respects. Indeed, they have faced about completely, turning their back on some of the principles held most sacred during the controversy preceding the forming of the Mission Covenant. At that time, the leaders, as also the public organ of the Free Mission Friends, were gratified to find that the Covenant did not give every pastor a vote at the meetings, but only those elected as representatives of

congregations, thereby avoiding the creation of "a privileged class of ministers"; but the rules of the Free Mission now gave a vote to every preacher in good standing. Again, when its ministerial association assumed the right to discipline and expel ministers whose teachings and acts are not in accord with the beliefs and objects of the association, it arrogated unto itself an authority which Princell denied to any organization but the local congregation itself and which is not even granted in the constitution of the Mission Covenant. It is especially worthy of remark that the congregations themselves were not given a vote in the disciplining of their ministers.

At its annual meeting in June, 1908, at Minneapolis, the Free Mission took another step toward better organization. It was there decided to incorporate as a church body under the name of the Swedish Evangelical Free Church, thereby practically rejecting the original theory underlying the movement. The organization is, however, so liberal as to give representation to all independent congregations who desire to co-operate. Each local church of fifty members or less is allowed one lay delegate, two delegates for one hundred members, and one delegate for each additional hundred. Moreover, a vote is granted every pastor, preacher, evangelist and missionary affiliated with the church. These are empowered to vote and act on all matters coming before the annual meetings, while the corporate affairs are placed in the hands of a board of trustees, nine in number. By this last act the Free Mission Friends have formed a church organization nominally distinct and tending toward greater solidity.

The Free Church supports missionary work in Utah and southern China. It maintains an orphanage with a capacity of 50 to 60 children, founded at Phelps Centre, Neb., in 1888, by Rev. A. Nordin. In Chicago, Rev. Princell for a number of years has conducted a Bible institute for the education of pastors and missionaries.

The Oak Street Swedish Mission

As the educational and publishing center of the Swedish Free Church of the United States the Oak Street Mission in Chicago holds a pre-eminent place in the denomination, aside from the fact that its age and size lend it prominence.

This church dates its origin from the autumn of 1880, when some seventeen brethren met at 90 Milton avenue, then known as Bremer street, and decided to hold regular devotional meetings thenceforth. When this meeting-place would no longer accommodate the worshipers, they were given the use of a basement in the building occupied by John Martenson's newspaper, "Chicago-Bladet," at 308 Wells street. From

May, 1881, week-day meetings also were held in the Chicago Avenue Church. In the fall of that year, Freja Hall, at 155 Chicago avenue, was secured for the holding of meetings, and the brethren met there for the first time on Oct. 30, 1881. As yet they had no regular preacher, the most gifted among their number taking turns in speaking at the meetings. At intervals visiting preachers appeared, chiefly Rev. Sahlström. During the two years the Sunday services were held at Freja Hall, the flock increased rapidly, and in October, 1883, the church secured larger quarters, at 243-5 Chicago avenue, where an old shop was remodeled as a meeting hall, with a capacity of about 750. It was named for the owner of the building, Bush Hall. From now on all the meetings, including the week-day meetings continued at 90 Milton avenue and the Chicago Avenue Church, were held here. About this time a Sunday school was started, comprising six or seven classes. Such was the enthusiasm among those who desired to teach that if there were no pupils for them, they went out in the streets and picked up material for a class wherever they could find it.

After occupying Bush Hall for two years, at an annual rental of $900, which proved too heavy a burden, the congregation removed to North Star Hall, on Division street, near Sedgwick street, which was secured for $500 per year. For the next two years Rev. J. G. Princell preached regularly here. His successor was Rev. J. W. Strömberg, who served for one year.

Driven from North Star Hall (now Phoenix Hall) by a raise of $300 in the annual rental in 1886, the congregation in January of the following year decided to purchase the old church on Oak street, owned by the Swedish Baptists. By its failure to complete the deal after paying down $200, the congregation lost that amount. In anticipation of the purchase, the church was incorporated under the name of the Oak Street Mission.

In Sept., 1888, two lots, 205 and 207 Oak street, and a frame building, were purchased for $10,660. Here a building was erected in 1889, at a cost of about $16,000, the total debt incurred for the property being $24,000. The structure is 54½ by 109 feet, two stories and basement, and contains, besides a large hall, seating about 800 people, two apartments and two stores for renting purposes. One of the latter has been occupied for a number of years as the office of "Chicago-Bladet"; the other was until recently used as a smaller meeting-hall and also served as quarters for a Bible school. The new structure was formally dedicated in July, 1889, when addresses were made by Rev. Princell and Prof. P. Waldenström of Sweden.

The need of a permanent preacher was not supplied until August, 1891, when Rev. Axel Nordin took charge, serving until July, 1901.

During this decade the membership was doubled, reaching 180, while many participated in the work of this church without being registered members.

In the fall of 1898 the congregation opened the lower hall for a divinity school, named the Swedish Bible Institute, which was conducted by Rev. Princell, assisted by the pastor of the church. When in July, 1901, Rev. G. A. Young succeeded to the pastorate, he entered energetically into the work both as a preacher and a teacher in the institute. After three years' work his flock exceeded 250 in number. In 1903 a constitution for the government of the church went into effect. In 1907 Rev. Young was succeeded by Rev. Victor Swift, the present pastor of the Oak Street Mission. The membership of the church now approaches 250.

The Swedish Congregationalists

A number of Mission Friends have associated themselves with the American Congregational Church, the first step being taken in 1881 by the Mission Church of Worcester, Mass. The cause for this defection is twofold: first, the education of Mission ministers at the Chicago Theological Seminary, a Congregational institution; second, the chance of obtaining financial aid from the American Congregationalists for the Swedish Mission churches. Doctrinally, the Swedish Congregationalists do not differ from other Mission Friends, and if they did, that could not cause a separation on their part, holding, as they do, that all true believers may unite with their churches while still remaining Lutherans, Methodists, Baptists or whatever they may be.*

The fountain-head of Swedish Congregationalism is located in Chicago, at the Swedish Institute of the Chicago Theological Seminary, but the main stream has run eastward. In the New England and other eastern states, that group has the bulk of its membership, and it is freely admitted that the mission funds of the American Congregational Church are largely responsible for the general transition of the Mission churches in the East to Congregationalism.

There were no Mission Friends, in the specific sense of the term, in the East until the year 1879, when a number of followers of Rev. Princell, then a Lutheran pastor of the Augustana Synod, seceded from the Lutheran congregations in New York City and Campello, Mass., and went over with him to the Mission Friends. The movement spread successively to Brooklyn, Boston, Worcester, Quincy and other cities, Mission churches being formed in each of these places. The men who carried on the work were, besides Princell, C. W. Holm, Emil Holmblad, A. Lidman, A. G. Nelson and George Wiberg. On the

* Nelson: Missionsvännernas historia, p. 678.

principle of pure churches, it was not possible to build up large congregations, especially in places where the Swedes were few in number. It was, therefore, very difficult to maintain pastoral work in the different localities, and when the Congregationalists profferred pecuniary aid, this was gratefully accepted. The example of the Worcester church was followed within five years by the Mission churches of Boston, Campello, Lowell, Brooklyn and New Britain, and after that the movement became general. When in the '80s Swedish emigrants began to settle in the East in greater numbers than before, a large mission field was opened up, which the Swedish churches themselves were not prepared to care for. The Congregational home mission board came to the aid of the Mission Friends and resolved to maintain a Swedish missionary in the field, Rev. C. J. Erikson being engaged for that work. To supply the need of more traveling missionaries, the Massachusetts Free Mission was organized in 1886. It engaged Eric Östergren, who served until 1892. In the meantime the Congregational mission board supported Rev. Holmblad and others on the mission field in Massachusetts.

The aid rendered by the American Congregationalists mostly took the form af salaries for the Mission pastors and liberal contributions to the church building funds of the Mission churches. The church edifice at Worcester dedicated in 1885 was erected at a cost of $8,395, of which amount $7,800 was contributed by the Americans. In 1896 this edifice was sold for $8,000 and another purchased from the American Congregationalists for $40,000. What part of this sum was advanced by the Congregational mission board has not been published. The Worcester congregation is the largest of the Swedish Congregational churches, numbering at the present time somewhat over 500 members.

The Lowell church, which had joined the Congregationalists in 1885, was among the first to experience trouble in the effort to live up to the principle of tolerating doctrinal differences among its members. Almost from the start it was torn by dissensions which came to a head in 1891, when 26 members left in a body and formed a Methodist church. They were followed by others, and shortly afterward a second group seceded to start a Baptist church.

The ministers of the Swedish Congregational churches in the East are united in a ministerial association, known as The Swedish Pastoral Conference of the East, organized Feb. 8, 1888, at New Britain, Conn. Its by-laws, adopted the following year, under which the Conference was incorporated in 1891, admit all ministers, but provide discipline and expulsion for false teaching and unchristian living, from which it appears that while all Christian beliefs are tolerated among the

members of the church, the Conference does not sanction every interpretation of the Scriptures. The Conference now numbers about 70 members.

Congregationalism was almost unknown to the Mission Friends of the West up to the year 1885, when at the organization of the Mission Covenant the Chicago Theological Seminary generously offered to defray the expenses for the education of its ministers. A denominational historian is authority for the statement that with very few exceptions the clergy and laity of the Mission churches were unacquainted with the Congregational church organism. From subsequent events it is apparent that the Covenant's acceptance of the offer did not imply organic connection with that denomination, nor did the Covenant suspect any hidden motive in the offer or foresee the subsequent developments.

While refraining from open antagonism, the Covenant has looked with disfavor on the trend toward Congregationalism. In the East its influence has been insufficient to outweigh the financial inducements held out to the Mission churches, but in the western and northwestern states the movement has been discouraged and its progress has been correspondingly slow.

In 1889, the church papers "Missions-Vännen" and "Minneapolis Veckoblad," both speaking for the Covenant, took a stand against going over to the Congregationalists. The answer was a unanimous resolution passed at the Pastoral Conference of the East, held in Boston in December of that year, protesting against the view expressed that the movement was derogatory to the Mission church and testifying to its great usefulness to the churches in the eastern states.

The question again came up for discussion in connection with the establishment of the Covenant's own theological school. The brethren in the East pronounced the new school not only unnecessary but dangerous, inasmuch as it would create a rivalry with the Swedish department of the Chicago Theological Seminary, which might lead to unwholesome competition in soliciting students and breed partisanship among the graduates of the respective institutions.

In 1890 the question was raised of making the Covenant a conference, i. e., an integral part of the Congregational church. The plan was to give it representation at the triennial Congregational General Council and allot to it a suitable appropriation for home and foreign missions, and leave it in full control of its own mission work. Leading men of the American Congregational Church and of the Covenant met in Chicago to discuss the proposed union. At that meeting the Swedish ministers emphasized that they differed from the Congregationalists in regard to condition of membership in the

churches, and also in regard to wordly amusements. Almost to a man the Covenant opposed the union, and the plan fell through. It seems to be a fact that until recently discussion looking to the establishment of closer relations among the three groups of Mission Friends has only served to embitter the feelings on all sides and caused further estrangement. The last of the series of heated debates on the question of uniting the three groups was carried on in the respective newspaper organs in 1903. After lasting for some six months, the discussion grew so acrimonious and personal that it had to be shut off in the public prints, proving, naturally, worse than fruitless. The results of the overtures for unification made in 1905 by the Covenant are yet to come.

The foreign mission work of the Swedish Congregationalists is carried on principally through the medium of the Scandinavian Alliance Mission, with headquarters in Chicago. A mission association of that name was organized there in 1890, by F. Franson, a missionary. This mission is independent of the Congregationalists, but is favored by the Swedish Congregational churches and also the Free churches. It has an elective board of seven directors, and Rev. Franson was general director until his death in 1908. All persons paying at least $10 a year to its mission fund are counted members of the association. Its function is that of an agency or connecting link between the congregations and the missionaries in the field. The latter are about 100 in number, half of whom are engaged in China, the remainder in India, Mongolia and Africa. The majority of them are sent out and supported by individual churches of the Congregational group in the East and the Free Mission and independent Covenant churches in the West, their contributions merely passing through the hands of the Alliance Mission. In sixteen years the Scandinavian Alliance Mission handled mission funds amounting to upwards of $400,000, aggregating $25,000 per year.

To date the Swedish Congregational churches in Illinois have been twelve in number, two of them being now almost extinct and a third having severed its connection.

The oldest of these is the Bethlehem church in Chicago. In the autumn of 1886, Prof. Fridolf Risberg, assisted by students of the Chicago Theological Seminary, rented a vacant store in West Lake street and began to conduct religious services for the Swedish people in that neighborhood. The mission was kept up for three years, and in 1889, Sept. 21st, a congregation was organized under the name of the Swedish Christian Bethlehem Church. Its meetings were held successively in an old Baptist church at Washington boulevard and Paulina street, Castle Hall, in Lake street, a Unitarian church at

Monroe and Laughlin streets, and again in Castle Hall up to November, 1900, when it moved into its own church edifice, a remodeled residence in Fulton street, representing an outlay of $2,500. The church has never had a permanent pastor, the services being conducted in turn by Prof. Risberg's pupils during the school year and by students or teachers during each vacation. Since 1891 the church has supported one of its members, Miss Alma Svenson, as a missionary in China. It joined the Congregational denomination in 1897, but has enjoyed no financial aid from that source.

Up to the year 1900, the Swedish Congregational churches had received $365,000 from the American Congregational Church. A historical work on Swedish Congregationalism, published in 1906, accounts for 112 churches of that denomination.

The Swedish Institute of the Chicago Theological Seminary

The Chicago Theological Seminary is one of eight similar institutions owned and maintained by the Congregational Church. The Chicago institution was founded in 1854. A German department was instituted in 1882, followed by a Scandinavian department in 1884. The following year this latter was divided in two, a Danish-Norwegian and a Swedish department. The institution is located at 81 Ashland boulevard.

Rev. Fridolf Risberg of Sweden was called to assume charge of instruction in the Swedish department in 1885. During the prior year of its existence the department had fourteen students in attendance. For three years Prof. Risberg was alone in the work. Then Rev. David Nyvall was called as his associate. After two years of teaching Rev. Nyvall resigned, and his successor, Rev. M. E. Peterson, has been connected with the school up to the present time. During the first six years the department was in connection with the Swedish Evangelical Mission Covenant of America, which for three years had the authority to select the associate teachers and also contributed the greater part of their salaries.

After the department had been fully developed the average number of students was 40, until the Covenant in 1891 secured a school of its own, when that number was materially reduced, the present attendance being about 25.

Tuition is given free of cost, and gifted and deserving students are granted a stipend of $50 per year.

The Swedish students pursue partly general elementary studies, such as the Swedish and English languages, history and other subjects, partly theological studies, including the Old and New Testament, church history, dogmatics, pastoral theology, and kindred subjects.

The Swedish language is the medium of instruction in most churches, certain subjects, however, being taught in English.

The students are comfortably housed in the dormitories of the institution, and have access to Swedish and general libraries and a well equipped gymnasium.

One hour every week is set aside for addresses and discourses in English by missionaries or eminent preachers on topics of especial interest to divinity students. Aside from the regular class practice



Fisk Hall, home of the Swedish Institute of the Chicago Theological Seminary

in preaching, the students are frequently assigned to pulpits in Chicago and vicinity. In the neighborhood of the seminary is the Bethlehem Church, organized by the department and constituting the spiritual home of the students and teachers.

In the year 1903 the foreign departments of the Chicago Theological Seminary acquired a status of greater independence by being placed partially under the control of the churches for which they were called into existence, and who now contribute regularly toward the salaries of the assistant teachers. To accentuate their position they were named institutes. The name of the Swedish department was thus changed to the Swedish Institute of the Chicago Theological Seminary.

From its inception as a department the Swedish Institute has been attended by a total of over 250 young men, no women having as yet availed themselves of the instruction for teaching or missionary work. Twenty have engaged in missionary work among the heathen in Alaska, Japan, Mongolia, and China proper, India, West and South Africa and South America. Three of these missionaries were murdered in the Boxer riots of 1900. About 150 of the graduates are engaged in pastoral work in America, Sweden and Norway.

Denominational Estimate

The Mission Friends publish hardly any statistics worthy of the name, and only a rough estimate can be made of their numbers, expenditures for religious purposes and the extent of other activities. A work on the Mission Church of America published in 1907 gives a summary from which we quote, adding certain figures found in recent reports.

The Mission Covenant comprises 190 churches with a combined membership of about 16,000. Of these there are 28 churches in Illinois. Co-operating with the Covenant, although not organically united with it, are a number of congregations with an aggregate membership of 4,000, making a total of 20,000. The Congregationa churches, including only a few small ones in this state, are about one hundred in number, with a total membership of about 8,000. The Free Mission in 1907, according to Rev. Princell, claimed some 200 churches, with a total membership of 12,000, the 20 churches in Illinois having about 1,500 members. Bowman, however, gives an estimate far below these figures, allowing at most 5,000 members. Other figures, based on Princell's estimate, are: numbers of pastors, not including student preachers, 130, 14 of whom labored in this state. There were 13 churches in this state and 100 throughout the country. Those in Illinois were valued at $123,000, and the total value of church property was $840,000. The largest and most influential Free Mission churches in Illinois are the Chicago churches at Oak street, Lake View, West Twenty-second street and Pullman-Roseland; and those of Rockford and Moline.

It is with respect to mission work in heathen lands that the Mission Friends especially earn their name.

The Free Mission group was the first to go into foreign fields. Its first heathen missionary, H. J. von Qvalen, was sent to Canton in 1887. Two years later the Covenant began work in Alaska. The Free Mission in 1907 supported five missionaries of its own in Canton and besides contributed generously to the Alliance Mission. The Covenant had 13 missionaries and 3 native assistants in Alaska and 14 missionaries in China. The Swedish Congregationalists maintain no foreign missions of their own, but contribute considerable amounts to the

Alliance Mission and somewhat to the missions carried on by the Covenant, the Free Mission and the American Congregational Church. In foreign mission work the Mission Friends rank second only to the German Brethren, who are said to have one foreign missionary to every 52 members. According to the statistics of 1906 the American Congregationalists, who lead the larger denominations in mission work, maintained a foreign missionary to every 1,184 members, and the per capita contribution was $1.10. The ratio among the Mission Friends of Sweden was for the same year 1 to 943 and $3.39 per capita, and among those in the United States, 1 to 252, with $2.08 per member paid into the foreign mission treasury.



CHAPTER XI

The Swedes in the Civil War

Early Swedish Patriots

MEN of Norse blood have helped to make American history from the first chapter to the last. Swedes have played a part in shaping the destinies of our country at every important epoch. By early settlement they became a component part of the population of at least two of the thirteen original colonies. In the framing of a nation by a union of these fragments, two conspicuous Swedish-Americans had a hand—John Morton, who, as chairman, had the casting vote which determined Pennsylvania's stand for American independence, and John Hanson, Maryland's most noted representative during the revolutionary period and at one time president of the congress. Two noted Swedish commanders, Hans Axel von Fersen and Curt Bogislaus von Stedingk, fought in the war for independence, both receiving the Order of Cincinnati for heroism, while many less renowned patriots of Swedish descent, their number unknown, took part in the great struggle for liberty. Again, in the peaceable conquest of the great West, the Swedes participated by colonizing great areas in the central states—a movement vastly more far-reaching in its consequences than that of founding the colony on the Delaware.

In the year 1860 this influx from Sweden had but fairly begun, yet, when the great national crisis came, there were Swedes in every rank and station fighting and working for the cause of freedom and union, and the Civil War marks the beginning of their general participation in public affairs. Among the Swedes who rendered eminent

services to the nation in this conflict were men of the old Delaware stock, like Admiral Dahlgren, naval commander and inventor of the Dahlgren gun, and Gen. Robert Anderson of Fort Sumter fame; men who came over directly from Sweden to aid the Union, like Gen. Ernst von Vegesack; that isolated genius, Captain John Ericsson, inventor of the Monitor; and last, but not least, the thousands of Swedish-Americans of the West, who fought in the volunteer ranks of the Union army, and the scores of brave and skilled commanders of companies, regiments and brigades, foremost of whom were Stolbrand and Malmborg.

A Study of Swedish Enlistments

When President Abraham Lincoln on April 15, 1861, in reply to the rebel attack on Fort Sumter, issued a proclamation calling for 75,000 volunteers to serve three months for the purpose of putting down the rebellion in the South, many times that number in the loyal states offered their services. The Swedish-Americans, then less than 20,000 in number and mostly new arrivals from their native land, hastened to respond to the call for defenders of the Union and enlisted in the service of their adopted country as eagerly as the most patriotic of her native-born citizens. On the first call an entire Swedish company was organized at Galesburg, and Stolbrand raised a company of artillery in Chicago, both of which were at first rejected as supernumerary, and individual Swedes enlisted in all the various localities in which they lived. To subsequent calls for troops they responded in increasing numbers, and the estimate which has been made that one Swede out of every six in the central West and Northwest joined the colors cannot be far wrong, even if applied to all Swedish-Americans. In the latter part of the year 1861 an all Swedish company was raised by Major Forsse in and around Bishop Hill, Ill., the Galesburg company was reorganized and accepted, Capt. Silfversparre recruited a battery, largely Swedish, in this state; Col. Hans Mattson organized a Scandinavian company in Minnesota; some Swedes joined a Norwegian regiment, the 15th, of Wisconsin, and the muster rolls of the northwestern states show a goodly number of Swedish names.

The general census of 1860 records a total of 18,625 Swedes in the United States. Of these, 11,800 were living in the four states of Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin. The immigration from Sweden in the next two years was 2,300. Allowing two-thirds, for these four states, their combined Swedish population during the main period of enlistment would approximate 13,500. The best estimates made of Swedish enlistments in the four states gives a total of 2,250, or exactly one-sixth of their Swedish population. Illinois, with a

Swedish population, in 1860, of 6,470, and approximately 7,000 at the end of the year 1861, contributed not less than 1,300 Swedish volunteers, indicating that in this state one Swede out of every five volunteered for military service, while out of the whole population one to every seven persons enlisted. Army statistics compiled in 1863 show that among immigrants and the foreign element the able-bodied males of military age, 18 to 45 years, constituted one-third of the total number. Thus, it will be seen, more than half of the Swedes of Illinois fit for military service actually served—all of which speaks volumes for the loyalty of the liberty-loving Swedish nationality.

No figures to show the total number of Swedes engaged in the war can be given, however, with any claim to accuracy. In the government army statistics the English, the Irish and the Germans were accounted for, but all others were entered under the head of "other foreigners." O. N. Nelson, who has endeavored to ascertain the number of Swedish soldiers mustered in the states of Minnesota, Iowa and Wisconsin, gives an estimated total of 950, but he shrunk from the task of an actual canvass of the reports of the adjutant generals of those states for Swedish names. That being the only method yielding anything like reliable information on this point, the laborious search through nine volumes of names of Illinois volunteers has been undertaken, with the result stated.

The Swedish organizations, Co. C of the 43rd regiment, and Co. D of the 57th, and the largely Swedish Silfversparre battery gives us 335 to start with. The remaining thousand Swedish names are scattered among the 255,000 on the Illinois muster rolls. The enumeration has been made with conservatism and due care. Names characteristically Swedish have been counted without question; Andersons, Johnsons, Nelsons and like surnames, rarely, except when preceded by a Swedish given name or known to have been borne by Swedes or men from Swedish settlements. Names like Smith, Young, Hall, Holt, Freeman, Newman, Swan, Stark, Berg, Beck, Holmes, Benson, Gibson, etc., although borne by many Swedes, have been counted only in known cases, a loss which doubtless is not outbalanced by those erroneously credited to the Swedish nationality. We have, furthermore, guarded against claiming as Swedes the several hundreds of other Scandinavians who fought in the Illinois regiments. Again, the tendency of the Swedes to Americanize their names or adopt new ones that completely mask their nationality must necessarily cause a number of omissions in the count. Other difficulties have been encountered in the attempt to pick out the Swedish soldiers from among the promiscuous mass. Their names were often distorted by the clerks of the recruiting stations, who spelled them phonetically, or they have been rendered almost unrecognizable by the state printer. Thus for instance, Carlson

is frequently written Colson. Hedenskog has been found in the two forms Hadenscogg and Aadenskoy. Person is anglicized into Parson and even such a typical Swedish name as Akerblom in the reports takes the Celtic form of O'Kerblom. Common Swedish given names, like Nils, or Nels, August and Jonas are usually changed to Nelson, Augustus and Jones.

With these remarks we submit the result of our struggle with the problem of enumeration in the following tabulated form:

Swedes in the Illinois Volunteer Regiments

Three Months Service

INFANTRY

Regiment	Number of Swedes
Seventh	3
Ninth	2
Tenth	3
Eleventh	1
Twelfth	17
Total	26

It should be borne in mind, however, that one whole company of Swedish volunteers at the first call for troops, and one battery, recruited by Stolbrand, were not accepted. Most of these volunteers undoubtedly enlisted again and would then figure in the report next following.

Three Years Service

INFANTRY

Regt	No. Swedes	Regt.	No. Swedes	Regt	No. Swedes	Regt	No. Swedes
7	15	43	161	71	6	107	4
8	10	44	6	72	12	108	5
9	5	45	11	78	1	109	1
10	14	46	8	82	8	110	1
11	10	47	1	83	16	111	2
12	43	48	6	84	5	112	33
13	9	49	1	88	1	113	12
15	5	50	7	89	14	114	3
16	6	51	26	91	15	115	1
17	12	52	15	93	14	116	3
19	6	53	9	95	8	118	3
20	2	54	2	96	1	119	5
23	3	55	19	97	2	120	3
32	1	56	1	98	1	122	3
33	7	57	151	99	1	123	2
36	17	58	1	102	20	124	14
37	11	59	6	103	2	125	2
38	5	65	2	104	13	126	9
39	7	66	6	105	9	127	9
40	2	67	1	106	3	130	1
42	21	69	1				
				Total			975

CAVALRY

Regt.	No. Swedes
1	13
2	11
3	3
4	10
5	4
6	2
7	10
8	5
9	9
11	1
15	3
16	2
17	8
Total	81

ARTILLERY

	No. Swedes
First Regiment	93
Second Regiment	34
Henshaw's Battery	3
Total	130

One Hundred Days Service

INFANTRY

Regt.	No. Swedes	Regt.	No. Swedes
132	53	141	12
134	7	142	3
136	1	143	3
137	5	144	2
138	17	145	2
139	17	Alton Battalion	2
140	2		
Total			126

One Year Service

INFANTRY

Regt.	No. Swedes	Regt.	No. Swedes
146	10	151	10
147	11	152	3
148	22	153	5
149	3	155	1
150	1	156	14
Total			80

Summary

Infantry, three years service	925
Cavalry, three years service	81
Artillery, three years service	130
Infantry, one hundred days service	126
Infantry, one year service	80
Grand total	1,342

Some allowance should be made for repetitions, caused by transfers from one regiment to another, yet these ought not to outnumber the probable omissions. The great majority of the Swedish soldiers enlisted for three years and, judged by the two wholly Swedish companies, they very generally re-enlisted in the veteran regiments, so that even when reduced to a basis of three years' service their number will not be greatly lessened. Some Swedish Illinoisans doubtless went elsewhere to enlist, but probably more Swedes came from other states into Illinois for the same purpose. The spirit of sympathy with a republic struggling for the maintenance of free institutions brought many volunteers to our army from continental Europe. Not a few came over from Sweden. Illinois being the state then preeminently settled by their countrymen, they were most likely to come here before enlisting. All things considered, we would probably be warranted in claiming at least fifteen hundred Swedes in the Illinois regiments. Any skepticism then arising as to the resultant high ratio of Swedish volunteers to the Swedish population of the state would be disposed of by two unquestioned facts—that the census and immigration figures as to foreign nationalities are commonly too low and that these volunteers were not all residents of the state.

The sense of patriotism and the justice of the Union cause was the chief incentive to enlistment on the part of the Swedish-Americans. Among the Norwegians there arose a controversy as to the moral justification of slavery and the Norwegian Synod split on that question. Not so among the Swedes: they were abolitionists practically to a man. When conscription had to be resorted to, there was hardly a Swede left to be drafted, nearly all able to fight having taken the field. Nor were they lured by bounties to any great extent, for by the time these were held out, most of the Swedes willing and able to fight at all, were already trained soldiers, inured to hardships and cheered on by assurance of ultimate triumph.

There were Swedes also in the South in those days, some 750, according to the census. Presumably a few of them took up arms for the Confederacy, others probably went north to fight or to live in peace among their fellow countrymen—the problem is as yet new to inquiry. This much has been learned, that a genuine Swedish name was borne by at least one Confederate commander—August Forsberg, mentioned in the reports as lieutenant in the corps of engineers and as colonel of the 51st Virginia, at times in command of a brigade.

The fighting qualities of the Swedish soldiery were tried on many a hotly contested battlefield. With other Europeans, many of them had an advantage over their American-born comrades in having undergone a course of compulsory military instruction in their native land. Generally, they submitted more readily to military discipline

than the Americans and took greater pride than they in developing tactical skill, order and precision. The Bishop Hill company of the 57th Illinois proved itself the best drilled company in that regiment; the Scandinavian Co. D of the 3rd Minnesota, Col. Hans Mattson's regiment, was the crack company of the model regiment of that state, and Col. Malmborg made the 55th what it was—the best all-round regiment from Illinois.

From good soldiers naturally sprung able commanders. It is complained, and not without justice, that American history is chary in giving credit to the foreign elements which rendered so material aid in putting down the rebellion, freeing the slaves and saving the Union. While the Swedes were fairly well rewarded in the way of minor promotions, it is but the plain truth to say that they earned well every advancement accorded them and in sundry cases they did the hard work for which others took the honors. The history of the 55th Illinois regiment is convincing proof that Col. Stuart received his ill-fated appointment to a brigadier-generalship on the merits of the fighting done under the direction of his Swedish lieutenant-colonel. Stolbrand did duty as brigadier-general a year or two before commissioned to that rank, and even then he was promoted only after he had resigned in mild protest against official ingratitude. And many an officer has attained the same rank for less brilliant services than the parts played by Malmborg and Silfversparre on the first day at Shiloh in staying the enemy's last onslaught and saving the day for Grant's army.

In order to convey, otherwise than by empty boast, some idea of the high grade of military service rendered by the men of Swedish extraction, bare mention of the known Swedish officers in the Union army and navy is here made, down to and including first lieutenants: Rear Admiral Dahlgren; Brigadier-Generals Robert Anderson, Ernst von Vegesack, Stolbrand; Colonels Ulric Dahlgren, Malmborg, Mattson, Steelhammar, Elfving, Brydolf, Broady, Burg; Lieutenant-Colonel Gustafson; Majors Forsse, Holmberg, Bergland; Adjutant Youngberg; Sergeant Major Lindberg; Captains Silfversparre, Stenbeck, Sparreström, Arosenius, Charles Johnson, Eric Johnson, Lempke, Edvall, Wickstrum, Carl Gustavson, Eustrom, Cornelieson, Lund, Nelson, Eckström, Vanstrum, Lindberg, Alfred Lanstrum, C. E. Landström, Linquist; First Lieutenants Hellström, Andberg, Eckdall, Nyberg, Ackerström, Johnson, Olson, Lindell, Oliver Erickson, Nels Nelson, Hjalmar and Johan Alexis Edgren, Liljengren, Gustafson, Lundberg, and others.

To complete the list would involve research far too extensive for our present purpose.

Company C, Forty-Third Illinois Infantry

Under Lincoln's first call for troops a company was organized at Galesburg, consisting exclusively of Swedish-Americans. Leonard Holmberg was elected captain and tendered the services of the company to the governor of the state. Of three other companies organized in Knox county, one was accepted, but the other two, as also the Swedish company, were disbanded on the ground that no more troops were then thought needed. It soon became evident, however, that the troops at the government's disposal were totally inadequate to put down the rebellion, and congress authorized the issuance of a call for 300,000 volunteers for three years' service. The disbanded Swedish company now reorganized under new command, Captain Holmberg and many of the men having previously enlisted for service in other organizations. By the first of September, 1861, the company was at Camp Butler, near Springfield. It now consisted of one hundred Swedes and three Germans. The men elected their own officers, as follows, Dr. Hugo M. Starkloff, captain, Olof S. Edvall, first lieutenant, and Nels P. McCool, second lieutenant. Dr. Starkloff was a German, and his election to the captaincy was understood to be in reward for his material assistance in recruiting the company and only a step to the commission of surgeon in the regiment to which the company would be assigned. It was given the position of flag company in the Forty-third regiment and became known as Company C, of the Forty-third Illinois Infantry Volunteers, commanded by Julius Raith. Starkloff being made regimental surgeon, First Lieutenant Olof S. Edvall was commissioned captain of the company.

After remaining in camp for a short time, spent in company and regiment drills, the regiment was ordered to St. Louis on Oct. 13th, and quartered at Benton Barracks. There the men were given old Austrian muskets for exercising in the manual of arms, and just before leaving for Otterville, 150 miles west of St. Louis, they were armed with old Harper's Ferry and English Tower muskets, altered from flint lock to percussion guns. Arriving at Otterville Nov. 4th, they remained in that vicinity doing guard duty and perfecting themselves in military tactics until Jan. 20, 1862, when they were ordered back to St. Louis and there equipped with 54 caliber Belgian rifles, an excellent firearm, but very heavy.

There were only eight companies in the regiment, until now two more companies, I and K, were added, but many of the companies were so small that the regiment still fell 200 short of its full quota of one thousand men.

On Feb. 6th it was ordered to join General Grant's expedition against Fort Henry and Fort Donelson. The men embarked on the

steamer Memphis, which carried them to Fort Henry, on the Tennessee River, where they were left to guard transports and supplies and thus prevented from taking part in the battle of Fort Donelson, only fifteen miles away. This proved a great disappointment to many of the Swedish boys who had an apprehension that the war would be over in a short time and they would have to return home without having taken part in any real battle.

On Feb. 24th the regiment was ordered to Fort Donelson and from there on March 4th back to the Tennessee River, and sent by transport steamers to Savannah, Tenn., where they disembarked and were ordered out in the country about twenty miles to disperse hostile detachments. The regiment was soon after encamped near Pittsburg Landing, a short distance from Shiloh church, as a part of the Third Brigade of General McClernand's Division of the Army of the Tennessee.

The boys of Company C had now been in the service about seven months, had become fair marksmen and were able to execute movements in approved military style. Sooner than expected, their skill was to be put to the test. The brigade had been in camp at Pittsburg Landing some three weeks, awaiting reinforcements in order to march on Corinth, Miss., and attack the enemy who were reported to be concentrating a large force there and strongly fortifying their position. Corinth was but twenty miles from the Union camp and skirmishes frequently took place between the cavalry scouts of the two opposing armies. On Friday evening, April 4th, troops were called out on the line in front of the camp and kept there till midnight, in consequence of a collision between the Union outposts and a rebel scouting party, but the alarm subsided. While the union forces were intent on moving upon the enemy's position at the opportune moment, no one in camp seemed to suspect that the enemy might have the same design.

On Saturday afternoon, April 5th, the 43rd Regiment was ordered to hold itself in readiness for inspection and review on Sunday morning at seven. As the men were awaiting orders that morning to form ranks, volleys of musketry fire were suddenly heard in front. While they were puzzling over the meaning of the firing on the picket line, the drummer beat the long roll of alarm. The pickets came rushing into camp barely in advance of the pursuing rebels. Seizing their guns and accoutrements, the boys of the 43rd formed ranks in company quarters, marched to the parade ground in front of the camp and formed in line of battle. Although it took but a few minutes for the regiment to form, yet the firing had increased so as to be continuous all along the line. Just as Company C swung into position, a shell from one of the rebel batteries came screaming over their

heads and cut off a limb of a tree which struck Louis Nelson, disabling him for the fight. Col. Raith sent Lieut. Col. Engelman to General McClernand to inform him of the approaching battle. Engelman was instructed to tell Col. Reardon of the 29th Illinois to assume command of the brigade, as General Ross, the regular commander, was absent on furlough. Reardon being sick, the command devolved upon Raith, who left his own regiment in command of Engelman.

The Forty-third was one of the few regiments ready for action on that fatal morning. The general condition in the Union camp at the moment of attack is described by Greeley as follows: Some of the men were dressing, others washing or cooking, a few were eating breakfast, many, especially officers, had not yet risen. Neither officers nor men were aware of the approaching enemy until magnificent lines of battle poured out of the woods in front of the camps and at double-quick rushed in upon our bewildered, half-dressed and not yet half-formed men, firing deadly volleys at close range, then springing upon the coatless, musketless mob with the bayonets. Some fell as they ran, others as they emerged from the tents or strove to buckle on their accoutrements; some tried to surrender, but the rebels could not stop then to take prisoners.

Lieut. Col. Engelman had ordered out a line of skirmishers, but they hardly had time to deploy before the enemy appeared, marching in regimental divisions in such masses as to cover the ground over which the unionists had a clear view, and so close upon them that the skirmish line was pressed back on the regiment. The left flank of the 43rd was left exposed by the retirement of the 49th Illinois, whose members were driven out of their camp before they had time to form a line or fire a shot. Engelman then ordered the second battalion, five companies, including Company C, of his regiment to take the position left vacant by the demoralized 49th. The battalion, about 300 strong, moved into that position and held it probably ten minutes against a tenfold force of the enemy, then fell back to the first battalion, leaving many dead and wounded behind. Of Company C, Charles Samuelson was instantly killed here, and Swan Olson and Nels Bodelson were among the severely wounded. Prentiss' division, to the left of McClernand's, had been routed at the first onset before it could form in line of battle, and by ten o'clock it had been virtually demolished. Sherman's division, on McClernand's right, notwithstanding the desperate and untiring exertions of its leader, was practically out of the fight after the first hour.

McClernand stood firm, though the defection on both his flanks left the rebels free to hurl themselves against him in tremendous force. Two raw regiments, the 15th and 16th Iowa, which he brought to

43D INFANTRY

COLONEL	ADJ'T.	GUSTAV WAGENFUEHR	SERG'T. MAJ.	HENRY FENJA	SERVED DURING CAMPAIGN OF
ADOLPH ENGELMANN	QR.MR.	ALBERT POTHOFF	Q. M. SERG'T.	BERTZ WUERPEL	EXTERIOR LINE WITH ENGELMANN'S
LIEUT. COLONEL	SURGN.	HUGO M. STAMKOFF	COM. SERG'T.	HERMAN BUSCH	BRIGADE. PROVISIONAL DIVISION.
ADOLPH DENGLER	ASS'T. SURGN.	JULIUS FUNK	HOSP. STEW.	CHARLES MEYERY	CORPS. FROM ABOUT A. M. 5...
MAJOR			PRINCIPAL MUSICIANS	EUSTACH KIESER	
CHARLES STEPHANI	CHAPLN.	HENRY D. SCHMIDT		FLORIS VOGEL	

Co A

CAPTAIN JOHN PETZ
1ST LIEUT. HENRY MILLITZER
2D LIEUT. WILHELM ZIEGLER

SERGEANTS: JOHN DANNULLER, LOUIS SCHUMANN, [illegible], MUSICIAN
CORPORALS: JOHN GRUNEWALD, [illegible]

PRIVATES: ADLER, EMIL; BECKER, WILLIAM; BRANDT, CHRISTIAN; BRUNS H. CHRISTIAN; BUENKENTHER, FRED; BUMBARDT, AUGUST; FRANK, GEORGE; FUCH, GEORGE; FUHR, LAURENTZ; FLUCK, JOHN; TRICK, ALOIS; HEIMBARDT, JACOBS; HARNMANN, WILLIAM; HAUSE, HENRY; HAUSE, PETER; HEITLER, A. VOLNTY; KLAUSE, FREDERICK; KOCH, HENRY; KRAMMER, CHRIS.; KUHNS, KARL; LANDHAUSER, LOUIS; LAMBRECHT, FREDERICK; MAYER, HENRY; MEYERS, THOMAS; RABLES, HENRY; OFFERMAN, DIETRICH; PETERS, WILLIAM; REINKE, HENRY; SCHMIDT, [illegible]; SCHULTZ, [illegible]; SCHMIDT, HENRY; SCHMIDT, [illegible]; SCHMIDT, [illegible]; SCHMIDT, [illegible]; STEIN, JOSEPH; SUTTER, GEORGE; THIES, PETER; TWERMAFFEL, HERMAN; WANGELIN, GUSTAVE; WEISS, FRITZ; WILLER, JOHN; WILLIAMS, ERNST; [illegible]

Co B

CAPTAIN SAMUEL SCHIMMINGER
1ST LIEUT. HENRY STRASSINGER
2D LIEUT. JOHN WOLZ

SERGEANTS: HENRY LIEBE, HENRY STRATZ, CONRAD LANG, FREDERICK KOEHLER, FREDERICH THOMAS
CORPORALS: MUSICIAN
MUSICIAN: FREDERICH BURTE

PRIVATES: APPEL, GEORGE; BASSE, ERNEST; BEBKE, CASPER; BERG, FRANTZ; BIEER, THOMAS; FINEL, JACOB; FISHER, THEODORE; GROSS, VALENTINE; HAHN, FREDERICK; HARTMAN, LOUIS; HARTMAN, WENDELL; HERBST, FREDERICH; HATZENBUHLER, C.; HAUK, FREDERICH; HEINMAN, LEWIS; HOFMAN, PETER; HOHN, H.; KAISER, CHARLES; KLAUSS, LOUIS; KOCH, HENRY; KRAUST, HENRY; KRITELER, JOHN; LANDGRAFF, JOHN; LANG, WILLIAM; LEPERT, JOHN; LUTZ, JACOB; MANN, DAVID; MARDER, ANTON; METZGER, JOHN; MOHR, FREDERICH; MUELLER, CARL; MUELLER, JOHN; MUTCHLER, AUGUST; PLEITNER, WILLIAM; RUTH, JOHN; RUTH, LOUIS; RUTH, FREDERICH; SUTTER, AUGUST; SAYER, JOHN; SCHMIDT, ADAM; SCHMIDT, HENRY; SMALLER, CHRISTIAN; SMINCKER, CHRIST.; STEIN, HENRY; STRUB, LOUIS; STUCK, MARTIN; VOLLMER, JOSEPH; WAGNER, ADAM; WANGLER, ANTON; WEIDER, FRIEDERICH; WOLZ, ADAM; ZEHNER, HENRY

Co C

CAPTAIN CARL AROSENIUS
1ST LIEUT. JOHN E. ANDBERG
2D LIEUT. NELS KNUTSON

SERGEANTS: OLAF A. HALLFAST, PETER BENDTSON
MUSICIAN: ANDREW ERGESTROM
CORPORALS: WARDNER, DAVID A. DUDLEY

PRIVATES: ALMSTEDT, JOHN M.; ANDERSON, A. I.; ANDERSON, PETER; ANDERSON, WILLIAM; BENTSSON, OLAF; ENGNELL, PETER J.; FINTHORFF, PETER J.; JOHNSON, CHAS. B.; JOHNSON, CHAS. F.; JOHNSON, WILLIAM; JOHNSON, FRANCIS; JOHNSON, JOHN; HANSSON, OLAF; LARSON, CHARLES E.; LARSON, JOHN; LINDELL, JOHN; LINDELL, NELS; LILLYEARSON, JOHN P.; MALMBORG, SWEN P.; NELSON, ANDREW J.; NELSON, LOUIS; NELSON, VICTOR; NELSON, WESTE.; OLSON, PETER; OLSON, SWEN T.; OLSON, WILLIAM; PETERSON, JOHN P.; PETERSON, JOHN P.; PETERSON, JOHN; PETERSON, NELS C.; PETERSON, NELS P.; PETERSON, SWEN P.; PETERSON, NELS P.; SAMUELSON, JOHN; SANDBERG, ANDREW; STOCK, WALKER; SWENSON, ERICK; SWENSON, SWEN; TEGNERS, PETER E.; WERDSTRAND, NELS P.; WESTERLAND, JOHN A.; WESTERLUND, P.; WESTERLUND, PAUL

Co D

CAPTAIN HERMEN C. FELDKAMP
1ST LIEUT. AUGUST FRITZ

SERGEANTS: MUSICIAN, MARTIN MILLER, WARDNER
CORPORALS: ALBERT BUCHE

PRIVATES: ALTHOUSER, TIMO.; APPELT, LOUIS; BALLOCK, JOSEPH; BAUER, CHRISTIAN F.; BERGER, HENRY; BUCHE, JOHN; BURKHOFF, WILLIAM; BYERS, CHARLES; DIETRER, GEORGE; FRANK, JACOB; HEY, CHARLES; ROSS, JOHN; KASPER, PETER; KLEIN, CHARLES; KRUTZER, HENRY; LUCAS, NAES; METZGER, JOS. M.; METZGER, JOHN; MILLER, JOHN; MUELLER, AUGUST; NEUMANN, JULIUS; RUNGE, LUDOLPH; SAULMANN, HENRY; WAGNER, PHILIP J.; MANTEL, ANTON; MC DONALD, JOHN; SCHLEGEL, GEORGE; SCHNEIDER, HERMAN; SCHNEIDER, WM.; SIELING, DIEDRICH; STAHLE, HENRICH; STEGER, FRIEDRICH; WERNICK, HERMAN; WIEFELS, OTTO

Co E

CAPTAIN JOHN TOBIEN
1ST LIEUT. CHARLES ENGEL

SERGEANTS: CORPORALS: FREDERICK STEIN, HENRY RAWENDEL, MUSICIAN, FREDERICK, SAMEL, WARDNER, CHARLES CUNDER

PRIVATES: BAUMGARTEL, JOHN; BUNDERT, CHRISTIAN; DUNKER, FREDERICK; DUNKER, HENRY; ENGE, ALEXANDER; GUELHARDT, JOHN; FRESSERS, MATHIAS; FLAKE, FLORANTINE; FLAK, JOSEPH; FOSS, B. MATTHIAS; GALVERSON, HENRY; MATTNER, CHARLES; LUDERS, JOHN; LORENZ, FREDERICK; MEYERS, CHARLES; OLSON, JOHN; RAWEDEN, THOS; SCHADE, CHARLES; SCHMIDT, JOHN; SCHMIDT, PETER; SCHADE, ADAM; SANDBERG, SAMUEL; SWANSON, A. JOHN; SWANSON, DAVID; WAGNER, PHILIP J.; HOFMANN, GEORGE; HANSON, JONATHAN E.; WEBER, JAMES

Co F

CAPTAIN ERNST WUERPEL
1ST LIEUT. ADAM SATTLER
2D LIEUT. WILLIAM SCHWEBEL

SERGEANTS: CORPORALS: PETER MUELLER, HENRY ZEUNEL, ANDREAS WEIKI, ADAM WEIDNER, ANTHONY SHERIDA, WARDNER, GEORGE THOMPSON

PRIVATES: BERTZ, AUGUST; CESSNER, JONATHAN; DIERENTHAL, JOSEPH; DUNCAN, JOHN; FEIRE, CHARLES; FRAZON, JOHN; FRICK, ADAM; HAAS, JOHN C.; HAAS, PAUL; KLAUSS, WILLIAM; KOCH, PETER; KLOS, FRANK; KOENIG, JOHN; KUESTER, HENRY; LOEFFLER, GEORGE; MARANITZ, VINCENT; MOSER, FREDERICK; REBLER, CHARLES; RABAN, GEORGE; RUPP, GOTTLIEB; SCHNEELL, FRED. W.; SCHNUELBACH, JOHN; SEMBIST, FREDERICK; SCHNEER, PHILIP; SPOTTER, MARTIN; STAHLBERGER, JOHN; STENGERT, EUGENE A.; WIEBELER, JACOB; WALKER, EZEKIAH; WORSLEY, ANDREW

Co G

CAPTAIN CHARLES HOCKNY
1ST LIEUT. CHARLES STOECK
2D LIEUT. FREDERICK EXTEL

SERGEANTS: CORPORALS: HENRY SCHROEDER, HERMAN WIEMANN, HENRY KOSTER, THEODORE BALKE

PRIVATES: ACKERMANN, EDWARD; BAUER, ADAM; BEITEL, CASPER A.; BERRIAN, JOHN; BRUNER, NICHOLAUS; BRUNNER, JOSEPH; BUNGS, LEWIS; FISCHER, CHARLES; FISCHER, GEORGE; FISCHER, H.; GAST, JOHN; GLASS, MICHAEL; GRASS, HENRY; GROSS, MICHAEL; HEINRICKS, ANTON; REES, LOUIS; REINKE, EDWARD; WAGONER, JOSEPH; KUHN, SAMUEL; KAMPHOFFNER, FRED.; KAPPELL, WILLIAM; KRAMER, FRANZ; LEHMAN, LEOPOLDT; LUNEMANN, ERNST; MAY, NICHOLAUS; MAYERS, JOHN C.; METZGER, RAYMOND; MEYER, ANDREAS; MEYER, ELLERT; MUELLER, ERNST; SCHMIDT, JOHN F.; PETER, PETER; RHEIN, FREDERICK; SCHMIDT, CHARLES A.; SCHMIDT, H.; SCHMIDT, JOHN H.; SEEMAN, JOHN; SOLTERBACH, ERNST; STACY, CHRISTIAN; STANGER, AUGUST; STINTMATER, JACOB; SPITZ, VALENTINE; STUTZEL, HENRY; WINTERHAGEN, JOHN; WOLLERMANN, JAMES

Co H

CAPTAIN HUGO WESTERMAN
1ST LIEUT. JOSEPH FUESS
2D LIEUT. GEORGE L. NOX

SERGEANTS: CORPORALS: JACOB ANGELMEIER, JACOB ZEIS, HENRY SCHILLS, PATRICK LOWE, LOUIS PAUNTAN, MUSICIAN, RUDOLPH DALSHNER

PRIVATES: ABERSOLD, PETER; ACKER, JOHN; AMBRECHT, ADOLPH; BOWMAN, CHAS. H.; BECKERMANN, CHAS.; BUHMANN, EDWARD; BURKHARDT, ADAM; BUER, HERMAN; TIEDT, H. CLOUS; TRITSCHLER, J. S.; BAHR, GOTTLIEB; SMITH, PETER; HARMANN, GEORGE; HERMES, SEBASTIAN; KAESER, JOSEPH; KLEIN, PHILIP; KLINKHARDT, W. J.; KUERNER, LOUIS; LUCHN, DANIEL; LUSH, GEORGE; SWEN, THOMAS; WINS, AUGUST; WITT, HENRY; BEHRENS, JACOB; BEITZEL, JOHN; SPRING, MICHAEL; STEINMAN, CHRISTIAN; WESSELS, HENRY

Co I

CAPTAIN HENRY KROEGER
1ST LIEUT. SAMUEL KEYMER
2D LIEUT. CHARLES A. HARMES

SERGEANT: WARDNER
ARNOLD ZIMP: JOHN BRANDT

PRIVATES: BARTH, MATHEW; BECKER, ADAM; BEILING, ANTON; BEYER, CASAR; BUHL, LORENZ; BUHL, FRED W.; BURKHARDT, CHAS.; FLEMMING, GOTTLIEB; GOTZ, WILLIAM; HADY, FRANZ; HAHN, RICHARD; HANSON, WILLIAM; HINDSCORFER, JOS.; HOSY, DAVID; HOSY, JOSEPH; HOSER, JOHN; KEIN, MATTHIAS; KOELLER, XAVIER; KUHLER, HENRY; KUNZMANN, CHAS.; LOEWEN, GEORGE; MEINER, PETER; MEYER, HENRY; RADERS, MICHAEL; RICK, LOUIS; SITTINER, JOHN; VICHER, CHARLES; SCOTT, JACOB; SCHMIDT, JOHN E.; THOMAS, JAMES F.; VOIT, GASPERT; WAHL, HERMAN; WELLER, EDWARD; WATTENHAUPT, CHAS.; WELL, HENRY; WAHL, LEWIS; WEIDNER, JOHN H. TURNER

Co K

CAPTAIN GEORGE H. HOENING
2D LIEUT. DANIEL C. ANDERSON

SERGEANTS: CORPORALS: HENRY WERNER, [illegible]

PRIVATES: BALLMAN, JOSEPH; BARNES, JAMES; BUSTIN, ANTON; BITTLEY, AUGUST; BANKS, FRANK; BOSS, FREDERICK C.; BOCKSTEIN, JOHN; BERNHARDT, FRED.; BILD, HENRY; BAUER, JOHN; LANDER, WILLIAM; LEWIS, ADAM; LASHEITER, LEONARD; LOHR, ANTHONY; LOHR, ANTHONY; MARX, MATTHIAS; MARCK, VALENTINE; SCHNACK, MICHAEL; SCHNEIDER, MICHAEL; SCHMIDT, H. C.; SCHMIDT, ALBERT; SCHMIDT, [illegible]; SPOHR, [illegible]; STEINER, CASPER; STEINER, JOHN; VINCENT, CHARLES; VOHRA, CASPER; WEBER, [illegible]; WESTFALL, [illegible]

Tablet in Illinois State Memorial Temple, Vicksburg National Military Park

the front under a heavy fire, gave way at once in disorder. The reunited battalions of the 43rd Illinois held their position for a time, alone supporting Capt. Waterhouse's Battery as long as protected against an enfilading fire, but after the troops on the right were forced back, they were compelled to give ground after stubborn resistance. With the enemy on their flanks and in their rear, they were squandering their lives to no purpose. In falling back they lost two guns of the battery and had to drag the others with them by hand. On their first position they left 36 dead, while many had been carried severely wounded to the rear. Retiring about a thousand feet, they formed anew and held their position a short time, punishing the enemy severely while themselves suffering heavy losses. Here Lars O. Berglöf of Co. C was killed and a number of the Swedish boys were severely wounded. With only one thin line our men were able to hold in check the several lines of the enemy because their Belgian rifles carried farther by about 200 feet than the rebel firearms. By this time there were but two other regiments left nearby, the other Union troops having retreated in disorder. These three regiments, sadly depleted, could not sustain the weight of more than half of the rebel army. After repulsing several determined attacks, sometimes advancing a little, but generally yielding ground, and losing three colonels of the line and three officers of his staff, with at least half the effective force of his batteries, McClernand by eleven o'clock A. M. was compelled to fall back. Col. Raith, the brigade commander, had been mortally wounded. With the foe on every side and occupying ground between this and other portions of the Union army, the retreat was slow and difficult. All camp equipage was abandoned and the dead and wounded were left where they fell.

By a circuitous route of about one mile the 43rd succeeded in connecting with other Union troops, and, taking a fresh stand, resisted the onslaught until far into the afternoon, cheered by the expectation of reinforcements. The position now held was near the road to Crump's Landing, where General Lew. Wallace was stationed with a large force. About 4:30 o'clock Generals Grant, Sherman and McClernand with many staff officers came up and inspected the position of the 43rd. They soon sent troops from the direction of the river, including two regiments and a battery. But Wallace's force marched a roundabout way, delaying his junction with the sorely pressed combatants until after nightfall, and thus a number of infantry regiments, batteries and battalions of cavalry remained useless throughout that day's bloody struggle.

Despite three desperate charges by the enemy that afternoon and evening, the 43rd stood firm and the Union forces still held their line

extending from this point to the landing, when darkness put an end to the day's carnage. The enemy withdrew a short distance for the night, in possession of the Union camps and most of their provisions and equipage together with many guns and thousands of prisoners. Albert Sydney Johnston, the Confederate commander-in-chief, had fallen and the rebel losses had been heavy, but Beauregard, the general commanding, that night reported that they had "gained a complete victory, driving the enemy from every position." He was not far wrong, for a large part of the Union army was in a demoralized state, a motley mob of skulkers, stragglers and fugitives crowded down to the river bank around the landing.

But that night the fortunes of war turned. Both Gen. Wallace and Gen. Buell arrived, the latter with 20,000 men. Next morning at daybreak the reinforced Union army was the first to advance, and the battle reopened anew. The field was hotly contested until about 4 o'clock in the afternoon, when the Confederates wavered and Beauregard withdrew in precipitous retreat to Corinth.

In every position held by the 43rd during the first day it had left its dead and wounded, who were the only men of the regiment to be reported missing. At the end of the second day's battle the regiment again stacked arms in front of its former camp. Out of a total of 500 actually engaged in the two day's fighting, it had lost 206, of whom 49 had been left dead on the field. Captain Edvall of Co. C received a mortal wound in the second day's conflict and died May 7th. The privates of Co. C who were killed in battle were: Lars O. Berglöf, Claes Danielson and Charles Samuelson, all of Andover. Many of the company were wounded, but we have no record of their names at hand. The total loss of the Swedish company in killed and wounded was 17. In addition to the three privates who died on the battlefield, others died soon afterward from wounds received there.

The 43rd participated in the advance on Corinth, which was evacuated by the Confederates May 29th; then it was sent to Bethel, Jackson and Bolivar, Tenn. At Bolivar they had their camp from July, 1862, to May 31, 1863, when they were ordered to Vicksburg, Miss. While at Bolivar, they made frequent expeditions to disperse detachments of Confederate troops and answered emergency calls where needed. Two hundred of the regiment, who were mounted, in the spring scoured the country dispersing or capturing Confederate raiders. Carl Arosenius, quartermaster sergeant of the 59th Ill., at Bolivar succeeded to the command of Co. C, being transferred and commissioned captain.

From June 2nd the company served around Vicksburg until July

4th, when the rebels surrendered that city, with 30,000 men and large quantities of ordnance stores.

Next the 43rd was ordered to Helena, Ark., to join Steele's expedition against the Confederates under General Sterling Price. A force of 12,000 men marched on Little Rock, arriving Sept. 11th. Simultaneous demonstrations on both sides of the river caused the enemy to abandon their intrenchments and take hurried leave of the city. The 43rd was the first regiment to enter* and was detailed to act as police guard during that fall. From now, until mustered out in November,



Captain Carl Arosenius

1865, the regiment was encamped at Little Rock, from whence numerous expeditions, up to 150 mile marches, were made to different sections and frequent brushes with rebel guerrillas were had.

In December, 1863, eight months remaining of the three year term of enlistment, the government offered the volunteers 30 days' furlough and free transportation to their homes and return on condition that they would re-enlist for a new term. This was to begin at once, and even though the war should close in the meantime, each man

* Col. Merrifield makes the same claim for his regiment, the 2nd Minnesota. Lieut. Nelson is authority for our assertion on this rather unimportant point.

was to receive a bounty of $400 when mustered out. The money consideration may have influenced some, but most of those who re-enlisted doubtless did so from unselfish, patriotic motives. The majority of the men of Co. C, whose physical condition permitted them to continue in the service, re-enlisted and were given their furlough in February, 1864. While at home, they secured thirty recruits, all Swedish-Americans, to fill up their depleted ranks. They returned to the South just in time to join Steele's expedition to the Red River to reinforce Gen. Banks, but the latter was defeated by the rebels under Kirby Smith before assistance could reach him. The Confederates then massed their forces against Steele, whose force, far outnumbered, retreated to Little Rock after several encounters with the foe. After this set-to, which occurred in April, 1864, the boys of the 43rd fought in no regular battle.

After re-enlistment the regiment was reorganized, and Co. C was assigned to first position as Co. A and was so known thereafter. It was mustered out of the service at Little Rock on Nov. 30, 1865, and taken to Springfield, where the men received their final pay Dec. 14th. The Swedish company then returned home after a continuous service of 4 years and 3½ months.

The total number of men that served in this company was 168, of whom 103 enlisted Sept. 1, 1861, 30 as recruits early in 1864 and 35 were transferred to the company on reorganization. After three years' service 34 were mustered out; 29 died from disease or from wounds received in battle; 30 were discharged on account of disability.

In recapitulation, the following list will show the engagements and sieges in which the Swedish Company C, 43rd Illinois Infantry Volunteers, participated:

Battle of Shiloh, both days, April 6 and 7, 1862.
Siege and occupation of Corinth, Miss., May, 1862.
Battle of Salem Cemetery, Tenn., Dec. 18, 1862.
Skirmishes around Sommerville, Tenn., April and May, 1863.
Siege and capture of Vicksburg, Miss., June and July, 1863.
Occupation of Little Rock, Ark., Sept. 11, 1863.
Battle of Prairie D'Ahu, Ark., April 10, 1864.
Battle of Jenkin's Ferry, Ark., April 30, 1864.

The roster of Co. C is here given mainly according to the official "Report of the Adjutant-General of the State of Illinois," with minor corrections of names and dates.

Roster of Company C, 43d Infantry

Name and Rank	Residence	Date of rank or enlistment	Remarks
Captains			
Hugo M Starkloff..	Galesburg .	Sept. 1, '61	Promoted Surgeon..
Olof S. Edvall . .	"	Oct. 1, '61	Died, May 7, '62; wounds
Carl Arosenius....	"	Oct. 9, '62	Mustered out Nov. 30, '65.
First Lieutenants			
Olof S. Edvall.	Galesburg . .	Sept. 1, '61	Promoted.....
John P. Andberg...	"	Feb. 13, '62	Mustered out Feb. 13, '65
Nels P. McCool	"	Oct. 1, '61	Died Jan. 13, '62. .
Second Lieutenants			
Nels P. McCool .	Galesburg..	Sept. 1, '61	Promoted 1st Lieutenant
Nels Knutson.....	"	Feb. 13, '62	Mustered out Feb. 28, '65.
John P. Andberg..	"	....	Promoted 1st Lieutenant..
First Sergeant			
Magnus M. Holt...	Galesburg.. .	Sept. 1, '61	Disch. June 14, '62, wounds
Sergeants			
Nels Peterson.....	Young America	Sept. 1, '61	Re-enlisted as Veteran
Nels Knutson.....	Galesburg.. ..	"	Promoted 2d Lieutenant.....
Nels Nelson. ..	"	"	Re-enlisted as Veteran.....
Nels Anderson. .	"	"	Disch. May 27, '62; disability
Corporals			
Gustaf A. Anderson	Galesburg . .	Sept. 1, '61	Re-enlisted as Veteran
Charles Cling.....	"	"	" "
John W. Erickson..	Andover.....	"	Mustered out Sept. 26, '64
Olof A. Hallfast....	Galesburg .	"	Re-enlisted as Veteran.. .
Peter Bengtson.	"	"	" "
Adolph Larson	"	"	Disch. Sept 4, '62; disability..
Magnus M. Nelson.	Andover.. . . .	"	Deserted Sept 15, '64...
John Paulson.....	Galesburg	"	Mustered out Sept. 26, '64
Musician			
Andrew Engstrom..	Wataga..... ..	Sept. 1, '61	Re-enlisted as Veteran
Wagoner			
David A. Dudley	Galesburg	Sept. 1, '61	Mustered out Sept. 16, '64
Privates			
Almstedt John N...	Moline	Sept. 1, 61	Mustered out Sept. 26, '64....
Anderson Andrew J.	Wataga...	"	Re-enlisted as Veteran
Anderson Louis J..	Galesburg	"	Died, St Louis June 14, '62
Anderson William..	Wataga...	"	Died, Hebron, Miss., Aug. 15, '63
Anderson Peter.....	Andover..	"	Tr. to Invalid Corps Nov. 15 '63
Anderson Alexander	"	"	Disch. June 30, '62; disability.
Axelson Nels F	Berlin..	"	" April 9, '63

Name and Rank	Residence	Date of rank or enlistment	Remarks
Privates			
Bengtson Olof..	Bishop Hill....	Sept. 1, '61	Re-enlisted as Veteran.....
Berglof Lars O.....	Andover.....	"	Killed at Shiloh, April 6, '62..
Björk Gustaf.....	New Sweden Ia.	"	Died, St Louis, Nov. 13, '61....
Bodelson Nels.....	Galesburg	"	Disch. Oct. 11, '62; wounds...
Chillberg Jacob.....	Berlin.....	"	Re-enlisted as Veteran.....
Daniel Claes.....	Andover.....	"	Missing after battle of Shiloh..
Denning Henry....	Galesburg.	"	Disch. July 8, '62; disability..
Erickson John A...	"	"	" April 29, '62; "
Erickson Gustav W.	Andover.....	"	" July 26, '62; wounds.
Engnell Peter J....	"	"	Re-enlisted as Veteran.....
Fjellstedt Swan J..	Moline..	"	Disch. Mar. 28, '63; disability
Hallgren Nels N...	Andover.....	"	" Feb. 6, '62; disability..
Harpman William..	Victoria.....	"	" Aug. 14. '62; "
Hall Gustaf.....	Andover.....	"	" May 15, '63; "
Johnson Andrew....	New Boston...	"	" June 17, '62; wounds...
Johnson Francis....	Berlin.....	"	Mustered out Sept. 26, '64....
Johnson Charles....	Galesburg....	"	Dis Sept. 9, '62; disability...
Johnson William...	Berlin.....	"	Re-enlisted as Veteran.....
Johnson Charles N..	"	"	" "
Johnson Olof.....	"	"	" "
Johnson John.....	Wataga.....	"	Died, Helena, Ark., Aug. 21, '63
Johnson Charles P..	Ontario.....	"	Mustered out Sept. 26, '64.....
Johnson Charles W.	Andover.....	"	Disch July 4, '62; disability..
Larson John	Berlin.....	"	Mustered out Sept. 26, '64....
Larson Charles J...	Andover.....	"	Died, Bolivar, Tenn., Apr. 2, '63
Larson Charles E..	"	"	Re-enlisted as Veteran.....
Larson Nels.....	Berwick.....	"	Disch. Jun 18. '62; disability...
Lindell Nels.....	Andover.....	"	Re enlisted as Veteran.....
Lindell John.....	Berlin.....	"	" "
Liljengren John P..	Andover.....	"	Mustered out Sept. 26, '64.....
Lundquist John....	Victoria.....	"	Died at St. Louis, Feb. 4. '62..
Malmberg Sven P..	Galesburg...	"	Re enlisted as Veteran.....
Nelson Sven A.....	"	"	Died. Jackson, Tenn.,Sept 30.'62
Nelson Victor.....	Andover.....	"	Mustered out Sept. 26, '64.....
Nelson Weste.....	Galesburg...	"	Died, Little Rock, Dec, 16, '63.
Nelson Louis.....	"	"	Re-enlisted as Veteran.....
Nelson Andrew J...	Andover.....	"	" "
Nelson Gustaf W...	"	"	Died. Quincy, Ill., June 30, '62..
Nelson Charles M..	"	"	Disch. March 3, '63; disability.
Norlinder Nels.....	Moline.....	"	Died, Bolivar, Tenn., Nov. 5,'62
Nyberg Erick.....	Kewanee.....	"	Died at St Louis, Jan. 24, 62..
Olson Sven.....	Knoxville.....	"	Disch. June 21, '62; wounds....
Olson Peter.....	Galesburg.....	"	Mustered out Sept. 26, '64....
Olson Nels.....	"	"	Died,Savannah,Tenn.,Apr.10 '62
Olson William.....	Wataga.....	"	Re-enlisted as Veteran.....
Olson Sven T.....	Galesburg.....	"	" "
Peterson Nels C....	Knoxville.....	"	" "
Peterson Jonas.....	Galesburg.....	"	" "
Peterson John.....	Bishop Hill....	"	" "
Peterson John.....	Galesburg...	"	.....
Peterson Olof.....	"	"	Disch. Nov. 8, '62; disability..
Peterson Nels N...	"	"	Tr. to Invalid Corps Nov. 15, '63
Peterson Sven M..	"	"	Re-enlisted as Veteran.....
Peterson Sven.....	"	"	.....
Rosburg Nels P....	Andover.....	"	Re-enlisted as Veteran.....
Sandberg Andrew..	Galesburg.....	"	Mustered out Sept. 26, '64....
Samuelson Charles..	Andover.....	"	Killed at Shiloh April 6, '62..
SamuelsonAlexand'r	"	"	Disch. June 30, '62; disability..
Samuelson Andr. M.	Berlin.....	"	Died, Otterville, Mo., Jan 18,'62
Samuelson John....	"	"	M. O Sept. 26, '64, as Sergeant
Strid Walter.....	"	"	Mustered out Sept. 26, '64....

Name and Rank	Residence	Date of rank or enlistment	Remarks
Privates			
Sundberg Peter J..	Berlin	Sept 1, '61	Disch. July 9, '62, disabil'
Sundberg Gustaf ..	"	"	Died at St. Louis Jan 22, '62
Svenson Sven G....	Andover .	"	Disch. Aug. 28, '62; wounds...
Svenson Sven E.	Galesburg	"	. . . .
Svenson Erick.	Bishop Hill	"	Re-enlisted as Veteran.....
Svenson Sven.. ..	Galesburg	"	" "
Svenson Bengt.	"	"	Disch. Sept. 6, '62; disability
Teberg Peter J.....	Andover . . .	"	Re-enlisted as Veteran.
Wendstrand Nels P.	"	"	" "
Westerblad John A.	New Boston...	"	Mustered out Sept 29, '65.
Westerlund Andrew	Andover.....	"	" "
Westerlund Hans...	"	"	Re-enlisted as Veteran.
Wilberg Daniel	Chicago .	"	Disch. Jan. 1, '63; disability..
Veterans Mustered out Nov. 30, 1865, except as noted			
Anderson Gustaf A.	Galesburg	Dec. 18, '63	Promoted Sergeant Jan 5, '64
Anderson Andrew J.	Wataga.....	Dec. 30, '63	" Corporal Jan 5, '64
Bengtson Peter.	Galesburg .	Dec. 18, '63	Pro Corp'l Dec 28, '63; M.O. Sergt
Bengtson Olof..	Bishop Hill	Dec. 30, '63	
Cling Charles.....	Andover	"	Prom. Corporal, M. O. Sergeant
Chillberg Jacob	Berlin.....	"	" "
Engnell Peter J....	Andover.....	"	Promoted Corporal
Engström Andrew..	Bishop Hill....	Nov. 18, '63	
Frithioff Peter J....	.....	.....	M. O. Corporal July 7, '65....
Hallfast Olof A....	Andover.....	Dec. 30, '63	
Johnson William...	Bishop Hill..	"	Died, Mound City, Oct. 25, '64.
Johnson Charles N.	Lima.....	"	
Johnson Olof.....	"	"	
Larson Charles E..	Andover	"	
Lindell Nels.....	"	"	Died, Little Rock, Feb. 21, '65
Lindell John	Berlin.....	Jan. 5, '64	
Malmburg Sven P..	Galesburg . .	Nov. 18, '63	Disch. Sept 2, '65; disability..
Nelson Louis.....	"	Dec. 30, '63	
Nelson Andrew..	Andover	"	
Nelson Nels.....	Galesburg	"	Pr. 2d Sergt. Jan. 5, '64; 1st Lieutenant Mar. 17, '65
Olson William.....	Wataga.....	"	M. O. as Corporal.....
Olson Sven T.....	Galesburg . .	"	
Peterson Nels.....	Young America	"	Transf. to Co. A, consolidated
Peterson Nels C..	Knoxville.....	"	Died, Knoxville, Jan. 24, '65..
Peterson Sven M..	Andover . .	"	
Peterson Jonas.....	Galesburg	Dec. 18, '63	Promoted Corporal Dec. 28, '63
Peterson John.....	Monmouth.	Dec. 23, '63	M. O. as Corporal
Peterson John.....	Galesburg.....	Nov. 18, '63	
Rosberg Nels P....	Andover ..	Feb. 14, '64	Died, Little Rock, Sept. 22, '64
Svenson Sven..	Galesburg	Dec. 28, '63	" " 15, '64
Svenson Erick.....	Bishop Hill....	Dec. 30, '63	
Svenson John E....	Galesburg	"	
Teberg Peter J.....	Andover .	"	M. O. as Corporal
Westerlund Hans..	"	"	Prom. Sergeant Jan 5, '64, 2d Lieut Nov 9, '65, M O as Sgt
Wendstrand Nels P.		Feb. 14, '64	
Recruits			
Anderson James....	Galesburg	Feb. 11, '64	
Anderson John A...	Andover	Feb. 28, '64	
Anderson Peter D..	"	Feb. 29, '64	
Brown Thomas M..	Chicago	Feb. 19, '64	
Bergquist Sam A...	Andover	Feb. 29, '64	
Espung Axel	Galesburg		

Name and Rank	Residence	Date of rank or enlistment	Remarks
Recruits			
Esping Carl			
Esping Julius L	Chicago	March 16, '64	Disch. April 6, '65; disability..
Frithioff Peter		Aug. 21, '62	Re-enlisted as Veteran
Hammar Henry	Chicago	March 16, '64	
Hjertberg Fred. A.	Andover	"	Mustered out May 27, '65.
Holt Magnus M	Galesburg	Feb. 29, '64	Prom. July 10, '65, in 113U.S.C.T.
Hanson Andrew M.	Andover	March 17, '64	
Hultberg Samuel P.	Galesburg	Feb. 29, '64	
Hockomb Magnus	"	March 11, '64	Mustered out May 27, '65.
Johnson William	"	Jan. 15, '64	Transf. to Co. A as consol
Jacobson John	"	March 11, '64	
Johnson Charles	"	March 1, '64	
Johnson John	"	March 21, '64	
Johnson Charles A.	Andover	March 16, '64	
Johnson John A	Chicago	"	Transf. to Co. A as consol
Larson John	Lynn	March 25, '64	
Mangerson Sam'l A.	Galesburg	March 27, '64	
Nelson John N.	Chicago	March 16, '64	
Norton Charles O.	Andover	Feb. 29, '64	
Nelson Benjamin	Paxton	March 24, '64	
Peterson Sven	Galesburg	Nov. 25, '63	
Rosengren CharlesG.	Pulaski co. Ark.	Feb. 3, '64	
SamuelsonCharles A.	Galesburg	March 11, '64	
Willman Gustaf	"	Feb. 29, '64	Died, Little Rock, Oct. 16, '64
Wager Henry B.	Chicago	Nov. 4, '63	" Dec. 11, '64.

Col. Oscar Malmborg and the Fifty-Fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry Regiment

Early in the summer of 1861, David Stuart, a lawyer of Chicago, obtained authority from the war department to raise a body of troops to participate in the conflict just then assuming formidable proportions. At first, probably one regiment only was contemplated, but a surplus of recruits being tendered, a brigade was ultimately formed, which Stuart, himself a war democrat and a great admirer of Douglas, who had ardently declared in favor of the Union, christened the Douglas Brigade. It was made up of two regiments, the 42nd and 55th. When the first, organized from material already at hand, was mustered in and left for the field, Stuart went with it in the capacity of lieutenant-colonel. In his absence, the 55th regiment was gradually taking form under the hands of Oscar Malmborg, who declined the coloneley of this and also another regiment, when tendered the commission by Governor Yates.

Malmborg, a native of Sweden, born in 1820 or 1821, was a nephew of Lieutenant General Otto August Malmborg of the Swedish army, who was raised to noble rank in 1842. Prepared by prior academic training, Oscar Malmborg entered the Karlberg Military Academy at Stockholm, from which he was graduated after completing the six years' course of study. He subsequently served for eight years in

the Swedish army. When the war with Mexico broke out, he came to the United States to tender his services to our government. Embarrassed from an imperfect knowledge of English, he volunteered in the artillery corps as a private, although it is understood that at first the experienced soldier sought some grade above the ranks. He served for twenty-one months in garrison at Fort Brown on the Rio Grande, a position which, much to his chagrin, withheld him from more active service in the field. His military knowledge earned him promotion and he served till the close of the war. In 1852 Malmborg located in Chicago, and was in the employ of the emigrant department of the Illinois Central Railway Company when the Civil War broke out.

The 55th regiment was recruited mainly from the farmers and workingmen of the state, but during the summer and fall these raw recruits, under Malmborg as commander and drillmaster, were transformed into a military body whose fine bearing was commented upon and which later became noted for its good discipline and splendid fighting qualities and known as one of the model regiments of the volunteer army. Malmborg possessed thorough tactical knowledge, then a rare acquirement among volunteer officers, and was untiring in his efforts at drill and discipline. He was exacting to the utmost limit, and wholesome as his discipline was, it was too rigid to suit his subordinates, especially those among them who had enlisted to attain their ambition to command, not to obey, or under the erroneous impression that the campaign would be a continuous picnic. Malmborg's temper is said to have been irritable and, at times, violent, and this, combined with his relentless discipline, made him unpopular. Stuart himself had unbounded faith in the military skill of Malmborg, while distrusting his own ability in that direction, and, therefore, took little part in actually drilling the regiment. The result was that when he afterwards, as colonel, took the command, his lack of technical training generated a species of contempt always fatal to the respect due a superior officer. Thus it happened that the colonel and the lieutenant colonel of the 55th both came to be held in contempt by the rank and file, the one for knowing too little, the other for knowing more than the green citizen soldiers thought necessary.

The greatest source of dissatisfaction, however, lay in the manner in which the regiment was organized. For the most part the recruits had come to the rendezvous at Camp Douglas as embryo companies, headed by men who were ambitious to become captains, and provided with a full complement of prospective officers, but lacking the required quota of privates. In the transfers and consolidations necessary to the formation of ten full companies, many would-be officers were reduced to the ranks, while their respective handfuls of recruits helped to fill companies over which Stuart, arbitrarily, as they considered,

placed others in command. Among those who had been most active in raising recruits were two Methodist preachers, Haney and Presson. Each was made captain of a company, and these men also exercised great influence over the rest of the regiment, the bulk of which apparently was made up of recruits of the same faith. Like most patriots, they also were "willing to serve as brigadiers," or, leastwise, regimental officers, and when Malmborg was made lieutenant colonel of the regiment, these reverend gentlemen and their friends felt grievously disappointed. If we are to believe "The Story of the Fifty-fifth Regiment," a book largely devoted to the task of defaming the name and character of Malmborg, and airing the grievances of those who vainly aspired to his position, the 55th regiment was on the verge of mutiny from the time of muster-in until near the end of the three-year term of service. And yet Col. Malmborg—ridiculed for his foreign brogue, denounced as a tyrant, hated for his "martinet discipline," branded as un-American and declared unfit to command free-born citizens, led this same regiment through a score of battles, in which none fought better and few won greener laurels. Whatever his shortcomings may have been, as a man or an officer, Malmborg proved himself a highly capable military leader, whose achievements on the field of battle, complimented by his superiors again and again, are the best answer to the charges of his scheming and envious traducers.

On the 31st day of October, 1861, the regiment was mustered into the United States service and on Dec. 9th left Chicago. Some time prior to the departure, the former colleagues of Lt. Col. Malmborg in the employ of the Illinois Central railroad presented him with an elegant sword, the whole ceremony tending to show that he was held in high esteem by his former associates. He was, as a matter of fact, a gentleman of more than ordinary culture and enjoyed the respect of his fellow countrymen in Chicago, from among whom he had just been appointed local consular representative of Sweden and Norway.

Upon reaching Benton Barracks, near St. Louis, the regiment continued its course of company and battalion drill, then became a part of Gen. William T. Sherman's division, and was sent south to join the Army of the Tennessee. While in camp near Pittsburg Landing, prior to the battle of Shiloh, the regiment was brigaded with the 54th and 71st Ohio and Col. Stuart was placed in command of the new brigade. Although a part of the fifth (Sherman's) division, the brigade was encamped two miles east of the other three brigades and formed the extreme and isolated left of the Union army in the first day's battle of Shiloh.

In the battle the three regiments were placed in line by Stuart. They were at first supported by a battery and by the 41st Ill. Inf. regi-

ment. These and also the 71st Ohio retreated, leaving the 55th Illinois and 54th Ohio to fight, with a total of 800 men at the outset. With no federal forces in view, the two regiments fought for two hours against a Confederate force of five infantry regiments, a battery of four guns and a body of cavalry. After the cartridge boxes of the killed and wounded had been emptied, the ammunition was exhausted. They retreated in good order, although shelled, and stopped near the landing where they were promised ammunition. Col. Stuart was wounded, and turned the command over to Col. Thomas Kilby Smith of the 54th Ohio. Smith left the command to Lt. Col. Malmborg in order to find a part of his regiment which had been detached during the retreat. Gen. Grant, passing, ordered Malmborg to form a line near the batteries. Through Malmborg's efforts a battle line of some three thousand men was formed, composed largely of remnants of regiments retreating towards the landing. How splendidly Malmborg acquitted himself in the desperate struggle during the rest of the day may be inferred from these words in Stuart's report of the work of his brigade: "I was under great obligations to Lieutenant Colonel Malmborg, whose military education and experience were of every importance to me. Comprehending at a glance the purpose and object of every movement of the enemy, he was able to advise me promptly and intelligently as to the disposition of my men. He was cool, observant, discreet and brave and of infinite service to me." After the battle, Malmborg reported to Col. Stuart a long list of names of officers and privates meriting special mention for bravery. Among them was First Lieutenant Lucien B. Crooker, whose elaborate villification of Col. Malmborg seven years after the death of the latter was doubtless his most noteworthy subsequent achievement.

In this, the initial engagement of the 55th regiment, its loss was the heaviest of any federal regiment engaged in that terrible conflict, except the 9th Illinois. The loss of the 55th was 1 officer and 51 enlisted men killed and 9 officers and 190 men wounded, being a total of 251, and 26 men captured. On the second day the regiment, commanded by Malmborg, fought in Sherman's division, under his very eye, sustaining but slight loss. During the advance on Corinth Malmborg had charge of the strategic movements of the brigade and later of the entire division, in the matter of picking the positions and planning and executing the fortifications. For this work he was complimented by his superiors, including Generals Grant and Thomas.

It may be added here that, although the extensive intrenchments thrown up during the advance on Corinth proved needless, owing to the demoralized condition of the Confederate army, yet it would have been the height of recklessness to continue hazarding the safety of

55TH INFANTRY

COLONEL
LIEUT. COLONEL
MAJOR
ADJ'T.
QR. MR.
SURGN.
ASS'T SURGN.
CHAPLN.

Co A
CAPTAIN JACOB M. AUGUSTINE
1st LIEUT. HENRY AUGUSTINE
2d LIEUT. LEWIS [illegible]

Co B
CAPTAIN JOHN T. MCAULEY
2d LIEUT. GEO. W. EICHELBERGER

Co C
CAPTAIN FRANCIS H. SHAW
1st LIEUT. ROBERT OLIVER
2d LIEUT. THADDEUS R. CAPRON

Co D
CAPTAIN NICHOLAS S. AGERSON
2d LIEUT. JACOB FINK

Co E
1st LIEUT. OLIVER ERICKSON
2d LIEUT. WALLACE C. PORTER

Co F
CAPTAIN LUCIEN B. CROOKER
2d LIEUT. VINCENT BROWN

Co G
CAPTAIN CYRUS M. BROWN
1st LIEUT. ALBERT A. WHIPPLE
2d LIEUT. PETER ROBERTS

Co H
1st LIEUT. HORACE T. REALEY
2d LIEUT. FRANCIS A. SCOTT

Co I
1st LIEUT. CHARLES A. ANDREWS
2d LIEUT. FRED. EBERSOLDT

Co K
CAPTAIN H. H. KENDRICK
2d LIEUT. WILLIAM D. LOMAX

Tablet in Illinois State Memorial Temple, Vicksburg National Military Park.

the Union army in exposed camps, while the enemy's strength was still unknown. After Shiloh, Grant's army learned the value of fortifications in the field, and Malmborg was the instructor. Seven different and complete lines of intrenchments, reaching for miles across the front of the army, were erected. They were solid, massive earthworks with log backing, and all scientific attachments, and were far superior to the rebel works around Corinth. They are yet to be seen with their outlines almost perfect. "The 55th did its full share of digging, and the fortifications built by the regiment were the pride of Lieutenant Colonel Malmborg's heart," says the aforesaid Crooker, who sneeringly adds: "He was never so happy as when displaying his alleged engineering skill." Other military writers, however, have taken a different view, deploring the absence of intrenchments on the Shiloh battlefield, and they probably would agree that a few prior lessons in digging might have wholly changed the aspect of that battle.

Malmborg and his command shared largely in the credit for the victory at Arkansas Post on Jan. 12, 1863. The 55th Illinois regiment disembarked from the transports in the Arkansas river and was led by Malmborg to a position ¾ mile east of the fort. At dark the regiment advanced and proceeded for a quarter of a mile through a thicket, to an open space a short distance from the fort. The enemy showered grape and shell, but did little damage. Here the men slept on their arms. One hour before daylight Malmborg directed the construction of earthworks for a battery of 20-pounder Parrott guns—formerly Silfversparre's battery. At noon, after a brisk bombardment, Malmborg with his regiment took part in the first assault upon the enemy's works. After an obstinate fight of three hours, a second assault was ordered, whereupon the enemy surrendered. In his report of the battle Col. Thomas Kilby Smith, the superior officer in command, says: "I desire to make special mention of Col. Malmborg, commanding the Fifty fifth Illinois, whose zeal and unremitting diligence in superintending working parties and planting batteries, performing at the same time his whole duty to his regiment, demand compliment."

In the "Tallahatchie campaign" Malmborg and his command in less than 24 hours constructed a bridge 170 feet in length, on which Sherman's army and train crossed the Tallahatchie River. At Vicksburg Malmborg's command participated in the assaults of May 19th and 22nd, his regiment bearing its full share during the siege, losing 14 killed and 32 wounded. Col. Malmborg himself on the 19th was struck by a musket ball near the right eye and was stunned for a moment, but upon rallying he refused to withdraw from the fight, continuing to cheer his men on. In the second assault Malmborg participated against the advice of Gen. Sherman and was again wounded, being struck by a fragment of shell near the left eye. Not

withstanding his wounds, he was active throughout the siege, spending twenty whole nights from before sunset till after sunrise in prosecuting the work allotted to him by virtue of his training and experience.

During the siege and investment of the city Malmborg had charge of Brig.-Gen. Lightburn's work of advanced rifle pits and attacking



Stockade Redan before Vicksburg. The First Marker at the Right of the Road indicates the Position of the 55th Illinois during the Assault of May 19, 1863

the enemy's stockade. He conducted sap-rolling operations and was constantly superintending this perilous work in person. With his men he approached the enemy's stockade within 25 feet and was shelled severely during the nights of June 30th and July 1st and 2nd. After the saps could be advanced no farther, being within reach of the enemy's hand-grenades, with which his men were copiously served, Malmborg went to mining. He proceeded far with the mines, and

on the night between July 3rd and 4th had 200 lbs. of powder and fuses ready to blow up the enemy's works. Half an hour after he had received these supplies, with instructions, the city surrendered. His achievements before Vicksburg at the head of the 55th regiment were no less noteworthy. During the assault on May 19th, the 55th at 2 P. M. advanced in line with other regiments under heavy fire to within 30 or 40 yards of the enemy's works and held their position until 3 A. M. next day, when they were withdrawn. On the 22nd, Malmborg, again taking part in the assault, remained near the enemy's rifle pits until ordered back on the morning of the 23rd.

Col. Thomas Kilby Smith, commander of the brigade, in his report of the operations before the city, said: "I shall make no apology for undue length of my report nor stint with measured praise the meed of the officers or the men of the Second Brigade. I only regret my own inability in language to do them full justice. With Col. Malmborg, of the Fifty-fifth Illinois, I have been side by side in seven battles, have stood with him literally among heaps of slain. He is always cool, prudent and of dauntless courage, and in the recent engagement, although wounded twice, and, by strange fatality, first in the right and next in the left eye, displayed those qualities with the ardor and cheer so necessary in a charge."

In the movements about Chattanooga in November, 1863, and in the final battle, Malmborg took a conspicious part. On the night of the 23rd, with the brigade now again commanded by Malmborg in the absence of the superior officer, he manned a fleet of pontoon boats in North Chickamauga Creek and during intense darkness descended and crossed the Tennessee and captured the enemy's pickets—a feat conceded to be one of the most daring operations of the war.

After the battle of Mission Ridge, in which Malmborg and his regiment fought, the 55th marched with Sherman the round trip to the relief of Knoxville, and after their return encamped during winter successively at Bridgeport, Bellefonte and Larkinsville. While at the latter place, after exacting the right to elect officers, the regiment veteranized, at which time the existing field officers all failed of election and at the end of their term quit the service.

The result is accounted for by the disaffection existing in the regiment from its organization. The relations between Stuart and Malmborg on the one hand and a number of the lower officers on the other grew more strained as time passed. The faults of the commanders were magnified and real or imaginary grievances accumulated. Stuart's failure to have the commissions issued was a legitimate cause for complaint, they being delayed for over a year.

In the fall of 1862, when Stuart's promotion seemed likely, steps were taken boldly and openly to get rid of Malmborg also. In a

letter to Governor Yates, confessedly inspired by Chaplain Haney, twenty-one subordinate officers demanded a voice in the prospective selection of a colonel, urging unpopularity, military incapacity, harsh discipline and abusive treatment of his subordinates against Malmborg's succession to the colonelcy. The action of the sub-officers was reported to Col. Stuart, who at once wrote to the governor to counteract the effect of the protest. From his letter we quote the following:

"Col. Malmborg is a strict disciplinarian, an exacting officer, who demands from every officer the active and complete discharge of all his duties. There are very few of them who do not feel pretty well contented with themselves when they somewhere near half perform their duties; such men are not only not patted on the back by him, but they are sternly and promptly reproved by him, and are driven up and compelled to do their duty. They would like to get rid of him and have a slip-shod, easy-going time of it. It is this vigilance, zeal and discipline, which has made this regiment in every regard today the best one in this army. I claim boldly for it (and it will be conceded by the commanding generals), that it is the most efficient, the best drilled, best disciplined, best behaved, cleanest, healthiest and most soldierly regiment in this army. This perfection has not been attained, nor these qualities acquired, without great labor and care, constant and earnest vigilance. I have, of course, the reputation of having accomplished this, amongst those who know only generally, that I am at the head of the regiment; they who know us more intimately are well informed of the consequence Col. Malmborg has been to me. It would be not alone ungenerous, but ungrateful in me to appropriate any share of the credit and honor, which so justly belongs to him, to myself.

"There was scarcely an officer in this regiment who, when he entered it, knew his facings; they have learned here all they know (and with some of them the stock of knowledge on hand is not burdensome even now), but by dint of hard work and doing their work for many of the officers, we can get along -and do. They ought to be grateful to Col. Malmborg for what he has done for them, but vanity, selfishness and that 'prurient ambition for fame not earned,' which afflicts most men, makes them insensible to the better, nobler and more generous sentiments of their nature.

"I desire frankly and truthfully to bear witness to you, as our chief, that this regiment, which has done and will do honor to your state, owes its efficiency, its proficiency, and everything which gives it superiority or a name, to Col. Malmborg—I owe most that I know to him—the officers owe all to him."

The governor replied by issuing a colonel's commission for Malmborg, to date from Dec. 19, 1862, which was received Jan. 27, 1863.

Stuart was promoted brigadier-general but the appointment by the President failed of confirmation, whereupon he left the service.

The opposition, having failed to oust Malmborg, bided their time,



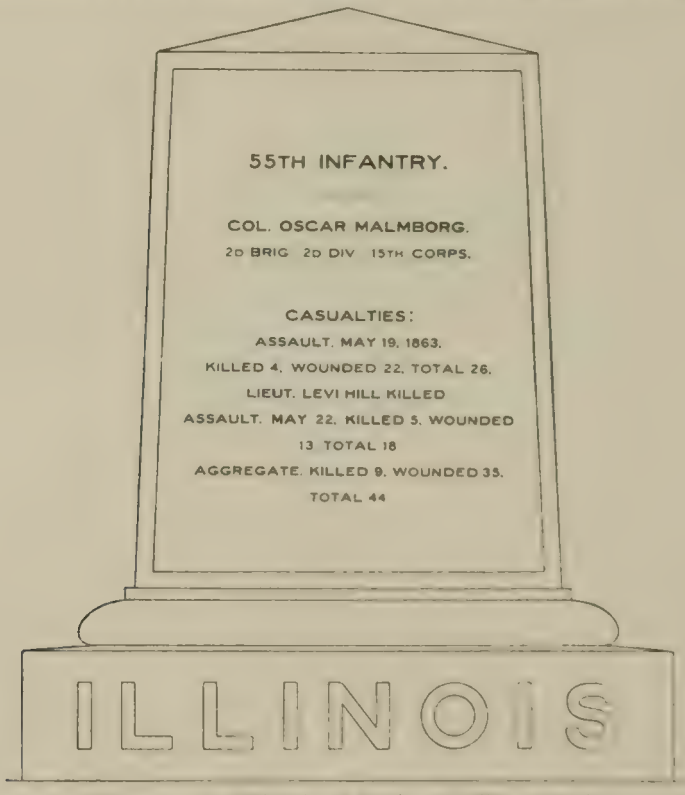
Colonel Oscar Malmborg

after five officers had resigned in disgust at Malmborg's promotion. The mustering out of six first lieutenants for disability followed, at the colonel's recommendation, made likely in a spirit of retaliation. In the summer of 1863 an attempt was made to have Col. Malmborg tried

before the general court-martial. The charges, alleging intoxication and the use of profanity at sundry times, were preferred and forwarded to the brigade commander, who detained and finally suppressed them. This document, which quotes certain offensive phrases ascribed to the colonel, but is silent as to the provocation, is remarkable in this, that it makes Malmborg speak very plain and correct English, while all other stories about "the d —d old Swede" make him speak an impossible German brogue, highly suggestive of fabrication.

But the real crisis did not come until the question of re-enlistment for a new term was urged on the regiment early in 1864. By this time the faction dominated by Chaplain Haney had grown to comprise almost the entire regiment. Contrary to usage, the malcontents insisted on the privilege of electing officers anew, and successfully frustrated every attempt to re-enlist the men until that special permission was accorded. Malmborg himself in a regimental order finally, under pressure, made the extraordinary and unmilitary concession, and on April 6th, the second anniversary of Shiloh, the regiment ousted the man who had helped them pluck laurels on that and many subsequent battlefields. Chaplain Milton L. Haney was elected colonel with 164 votes, as against 22 for Malmborg, and all the other regimental officers were sacrificed, no matter how bravely and well they had served. Haney had been captain of a company until the regiment reached the field in March, 1862, when he resigned to take the less perilous position of chaplain. He was entirely ignorant of military tactics and seemed to have had little faith in his own ability, for he preferred not to accept the command. To complete the reform, the principal musician was elected sergeant-major and a man hardly able to write his own name was made quarter-master. The whole procedure seems to have been looked upon by the superior officers as a ridiculous farce. General Logan, commander of the army corps, is quoted as having said to Col. Malmborg: "We have been accustomed to look upon the 55th as the best regiment in the army, and how shall I express my astonishment to find they are after all but a set of d— fools! Electing a chaplain, a civilian, a know-nothing for their colonel! Are they prepared to go into battle under such a man? Do you suppose that I, now on the eve of the most important campaign of the war, am going to send that regiment into battle under that man? Do you suppose the Governor and the Adjutant-General of Illinois will commission him?" As a matter of fact, only those officers elected, who were in line of promotion to their respective positions, ever received the sought-for commissions. Col. Malmborg expressed his intention of resigning soon to give place to the colonel-elect, but seems to have been prevailed upon to retain his commission while awaiting developments, and did so until the end of the three-year term. After

the election Malmborg, however, did not remain in active command of his regiment. He served as chief engineer of the 17th army corps until July 18th. Thinking to ease him of his exertions and divorce him from his difficulties, Sherman on July 24th commissioned him to visit posts on the Mississippi River. While the assertion that Malmborg resigned from his regiment owing to broken health is erroneous, it is nevertheless true that his health was on the decline. His condition did not improve by the combined light duty and recreation afforded by



Monument at Vicksburg National Military Park

his new commission, wherefore he now resigned and was mustered out on Sept. 20, 1864, returning to his home in Chicago.

On Jan. 1, 1865, Malmborg was commissioned colonel in the First Veteran Army Corps then being organized under Gen. Hancock, and was ordered to superintend the recruiting in Illinois, with headquarters in Chicago. Soon after appointed head of the second regiment, with orders to be at Winchester, Va., at the beginning of April, Malmborg there became the commander of the only brigade of this corps that was ever organized. His impaired eyesight weakened, and in order to avoid complete blindness Malmborg, acting upon medical advice,

now asked for his dismissal, which was granted May 31, 1865. Thereupon he was given a position in the departments at Washington. In course of time his vision was still further impaired, and, almost wholly blind, Malmborg returned to Sweden, subsisting on his pension until the spring of 1880, when he died in the city of Visby, on Gotland, on April 29th, in the sixtieth year of his age.

After the retirement of Malmborg, the regiment continued to acquit itself creditably, at Jonesboro, Kenesaw Mountain and throughout the Atlanta campaign, but most of its fighting had been done under the intrepid Swedish colonel. This regiment was engaged in thirty-one battles and was 128 days under fire. It lost 108 men actually killed in battle, and its total wounded were 339, making an aggregate of 447 struck by the missiles of war. During the entire period of service it received less than fifty recruits, and the fact that it had only 49 men captured speaks well for the discipline and cohesion imparted to it by its gallant commander.

By their countrymen the Swedish commanders Major Stolbrand and Captain Silfversparre have been lionized, and deservedly so, for their military exploits, while for some inexplicable reason Col. Malmborg has received but meager credit at their hands. A diligent search of the war records, however, reveals the fact that in point of skill, brilliancy and personal bravery, the leadership of the latter was in no wise inferior to that of either of the other two, and all the facts point to the conclusion that there were but few, if any, better fighters of any nationality in the Union army than was Col. Oscar Malmborg.

The state of Illinois has erected in the Vicksburg National Military Park the Illinois State Memorial Temple. On the interior walls there are bronze tablets and basrelief portraits in memory of Lincoln, Grant and Logan. On the tablet giving the organization of the staff occurs the name of Charles Stolbrand, chief of artillery under General Logan. There is a bronze tablet for each regiment of Illinois troops, giving the names of all officers and privates who fought at the siege of Vicksburg. Among them may be remarked as of greatest interest to Swedish-American history those of the 43rd and 55th Infantry, and the 1st and 2nd Artillery. The 55th Illinois has a marble monument on Union ave., besides which it has five marble markers to designate the positions occupied on the firing line. Marble monuments are also erected to the 43rd Infantry and to Co. H, 1st Artillery and Co. G, 2nd Artillery.

Company D, Fifty-Seventh Illinois Infantry

In the summer of the year 1860 a certain martial spirit was aroused in and about the Bishop Hill settlement, resulting soon in the organization of a military company, with Eric Forsse as captain. With his

Swedish military training, combined with natural talent for leadership, he drilled the boys under his command to a fair degree of skill in the use of arms. At the time there was probably no serious thought of ever engaging in actual warfare, but the very next year momentous events called for the service of every patriot willing and able to bear arms. Not long after the first call for volunteers, the Bishop Hill military company tendered their services to the state and nation. On the 16th day of September, 1861, they enlisted, and on the 30th they boarded the train at Galva, bound for Camp Bureau, near Princeton, where Col. Winslow was in command.

At this time a number of regiments of sharpshooters were being organized at St. Louis, for the recruiting of which emissaries were sent to the various military camps. Several visited Camp Bureau and secretly persuaded the members of the regiment to join the sharpshooters, and made arrangements for their transportation to St. Louis on the quiet. A steamer named Musselman was moored at a convenient point in the Illinois River and before daylight dawned on the 23rd of October, the regiment broke camp, embarked and steamed away down the river. When Col. Winslow that morning found the camp vacated, he at once endeavored to intercept the deserters. These had taken the precaution to cut the telegraph wires, but messengers were dispatched to the nearest telegraph station in operation, from which the state authorities were notified of what had occurred. From Springfield a battery was ordered to Alton, there to await the arrival of the Musselman and capture those on board. When the steamer attempted to pass that point a blank shot was fired directly over the vessel as a signal to stop. The warning left unheeded, the prow of the Musselman was shattered by a well-aimed cannon ball. Then the engine was stopped, the boat lay to and all its passengers were lodged in the old state penitentiary at Alton. From there the absconders were brought to Camp Butler, at Springfield, for court martial. Through the intervention of influential friends all were acquitted and then sent to Camp Douglas, Chicago, where the regiment, which hitherto had but six companies and was known as the 56th, was made a part of the 57th. The change in the numeral was almost imperative, the stigma left on the 56th by the Camp Bureau episode making it well-nigh impossible to secure recruits for it. On Dec. 26, 1861, the 57th regiment was mustered in, with Col. Silas D. Baldwin in command.

On Feb. 8, 1862, the regiment left Chicago for Cairo, en route to the war scene. Reaching Fort Donelson on the 14th, it participated in the siege of the fort and its capture two days later. The regiment next took part in the battle of Shiloh.

The 57th was held in reserve for a time, then ordered to take up a

position to the left, in support of a battery which was sharply engaged with the enemy. Here the regiment suffered little from the enemy's fire, but was soon to be tried in the crucible of hot conflict. Well along in the afternoon it took a position on the left of Gen. Hurlbut's division, and on the extreme left of the Union line, barring Stuart's isolated brigade. Here, about 4 o'clock, an advance was made, encountering the enemy in strong force directly in front. Firing began on both sides and for about 20 minutes there was a constant roar of musketry. Notwithstanding this was the first severe engagement of the 57th, they fought with all the heroism and valor that could have distinguished old and tried soldiers, but the contest was unequal. The old altered flint-lock muskets became foul after a few rounds, rendering it impossible to get a load down, though many of the men, in their effort to drive the charge home, drove the rammers against the trunks of trees; some, baffled in this attempt to reload, picked up the muskets of their fallen comrades and renewed the firing. Thus crippled by unserviceable arms, flanked on both sides and left without support under an enfilading fire, the gallant command was compelled to retire or suffer capture. In falling back the regiment was subjected to a storm of grape and canister from the enemy's cannon until it passed the artillery line massed not far from the landing by Col. J. D. Webster, which checked the Confederate advance, ending the day's conflict. In this murderous engagement the 57th lost 187 of its officers and men in killed, wounded and missing, the losses of Co. D being Charles M. Green and Adolf Johnson killed and fourteen wounded, including Andrew G. Warner, who was promoted soon after. On the second day this regiment moved into position at daybreak and was in the fight until the enemy withdrew defeated late in the day.

From Pittsburg Landing the regiment joined in the advance on Corinth. The city having been occupied on May 30th, the 57th was garrisoned there.

On Oct. 3rd and 4th the Union army in and around Corinth fought back an attack of a large force of Confederates. In these engagements Co. D lost three men, Otto W. Peel and Andrew Anderson, who were killed on the battlefield, and Olof Wickstrum, who was mortally wounded, dying on the 7th.

From Jan. 31st to Sept. 13th, 1863, while the regiment was still at Corinth, Co. D was assigned to garrison duty at Battery Robinet, just out of town, where the regiment had its winter quarters. The 57th remained at Corinth, except for an occasional raid or scout into the surrounding country, until the fall of 1863. On Nov. 4th this entire command, composing a part of Gen. Sherman's army, moved to middle Tennessee, where the 57th was assigned to outpost duty. Twenty days

later Co. D was ordered to take possession of Mitchell's Mill, near Lynnville, where the company remained till Jan. 18, 1864, occupied in cutting timber and operating the sawmill.

The term of enlistment having expired, the regiment veteranized on Jan. 17, 1864, with the exception of Co. C and a few men of the other



Soldiers' Monument, Bishop Hill

companies. Of Co. D the men very generally re-enlisted. The next day the regiment started for Chicago on veteran furlough of 30 days, arriving Jan. 27th. The members of Co. D arrived at Galva Jan. 29th, receiving an enthusiastic reception at the hands of the townspeople. From the station they marched to Norton's Hall, where the ladies spread for them a banquet to which the army rations could nowise

be compared. Returning south March 9th, with 250 recruits, the regiment went to Athens, Ala., thence to join Sherman's army at Chattanooga.

Henceforth the regiment was kept constantly moving, marching with the Army of the Tennessee in the Atlanta campaign, taking part in the maneuvering against the rear of Gen. Johnston's retreating army and in the battle of Resaca. On May 16th, with the Third Brigade in advance, the line of march was taken up on the Calhoun road. The whole brigade, under the command of Major Forsse of the 57th, encountered the enemy in force near Rome Cross Roads, where the rebels had taken a stand to protect the train of the retreating army. The brigade was drawn up in battle array and soon became engaged, the fighting being at intervals quite severe and lasting until nearly night. Following the enemy's retreat the next day the division moved to Kingston, thence to Rome, where the 57th, with other regiments, was assigned to garrison duty, while the balance of Gen. Dodge's command continued with the advance on Atlanta. On Oct. 13th the regiment under command of Major Forsse moved out from Rome, with a brigade under Lieut. Col. Hurlbut, on the Cave Springs road, where a portion of Gen. Hood's army was encountered, resulting in driving the enemy four miles back, with a loss to the 57th of seven killed and wounded. Major Forsse resigned on Oct. 16, 1864, while at Rome.

The regiment, with 504 men in line, on Nov. 10th moved out from Rome four miles towards Kingston, being the initial movement on its part for what proved to be the famous "March to the Sea," and on Dec. 21st reached Savannah, just evacuated by the enemy without a fight.

Going up the Savannah River on Jan. 24, 1865, the 57th had its last encounter with the Confederates at Bentonville two months later, on March 20th and 21st. It took part in the final grand review at Washington May 24th. From the capital the 57th regiment was brought to Louisville, Ky., and there mustered out, but retained its organization and returned to Chicago. On July 14th it received final pay and was disbanded at Camp Douglas, its starting-point, after three years and five months of active service or three years and ten months from the time of enlistment of the greater portion of the regiment.

The roster of Co. D, exclusive of non-Swedish recruits, is here given.

Roster of Company D, 57th Illinois Infantry

Name and Rank	Residence	Date of rank or enlistment	Remarks
Captains			
Eric Forsse	Bishop Hill.	Dec. 26, 1861	Promoted Major
Eric Johnson	Galva.	April 15, 1862	Resigned Sept. 3, 1862
Peter M. Wickstrum	Bishop Hill.	Sept. 3, 1862	Mustered out July 7, 1865
First Lieutenants			
Eric Johnson	Galva.	Dec. 26, 1861	Promoted
Eric Bergland	Bishop Hill.	April 15, 1862	Mustered out July 7, 1865
Second Lieutenants			
Eric Bergland	Bishop Hill.	Dec. 26, 1861	Promoted
Peter M. Wickstrum	"	August 15, 1862	"
George E. Rodeen	"	Sept. 3, 1862	Died at Corinth, Aug 7, 1862
Andrew G. Warner	Andover	August 7, 1863	Promoted in Colored Regim't
			Commission canceled.
Olof Anderson	Bishop Hill.	April 26, 1864	Mustered out July 7, 1865
First Sergeant			
Peter M. Wickstrum	Bishop Hill.	Sept. 14, 1861	Promoted 2d Lieutenant
Sergeants			
Olof Crans	Bishop Hill.	Sept. 14, 1861	Disch'ged June 3, '62, disability
Peter Nilson	"	"	Term expired, 1864.
Olof Olson	Victoria	Nov. 10, 1861	" "
George E. Rodeen	Bishop Hill.	Sept. 14, 1861	Promoted 2d Lieutenant
Corporals			
Andrew G. Warner	Andover	Sept. 16, 1861	Prom. 2d Lieut'nt Aug. 7, 1863
Peter Johnson	Bishop Hill.	Sept. 14, 1861	Re-enlisted as Veteran
Olof Wickstrum	"	Sept. 16, 1861	Died at Corinth Oct. 7, '62
Jonas M. Johnson	"	Oct. 6, 1861	Re-enlisted as Veteran
Jonas Allstrom	"	Sept. 25, 1861	Mustered out 1864
Wagoner			
Eric Lindgren	Bishop Hill.	Nov. 25, 1861	Disch'ged July 1, '62, disability.
			Louisville, Ky
Musicians			
Olof Anderson	Bishop Hill.	Sept. 14, 1861	Re-enlisted as Veteran
Swan J. Nordin	"	"	Died, Mound City, Jan. 15, '64
Privates			
Anderson Andrew	"	Sept. 25, 1861	Killed at Corinth, Oct 1, '62
Anderson Peter E.	Galva.	Oct. 8, 1861	Re-enlisted as Veteran
Anderson Charles P.	Moline	Oct. 6, 1861	Disch'ged July 8, '62; disability
Anderson William	Bishop Hill.	Oct. 11, 1861	
Anderson Peter	"	Oct. 6, 1861	
Anderson Lars	"	Sept. 25, 1861	Term expired 1864.
Anderson Lars W.	"	Sept. 16, 1861	Disch. July 1, '62, wounds
Anderson August	Berlin.	Dec. 7, 1861	Re-enlisted as Veteran.
Broberg August	Gillson	Oct. 11, 1861	Term expired 1864
Beck John	Watertown.	Dec. 5, 1861	" "
Crone Andrew	Bishop Hill.	Sept. 25, 1861	
Caline Eric	Galva.	"	Re-enlisted as veteran
Danielson Daniel	Bishop Hill.	Sept. 14, 1861	" "
Erickson Lars	"	Sept. 25, 1861	" "
Forsell Jonas	"	Sept. 16, 1861	" "
Granat John	Galesburg	Oct. 8, 1861	" "
Green Charles M.	Bishop Hill.	Sept. 25, 1861	Killed at Shiloh, April 6, '62.
Hanson Jonas	Wataga	Oct. 8, 1861	Term expired 1864
Hartz Andrew	Bishop Hill.	Sept. 14, 1861	Re-enlisted as Veteran
Hillstrom John E.	"	Sept. 25, 1861	Term expired 1864

Name and Rank	Residence	Date of rank or enlistment	Remarks
Privates			
Johnson Adolph	Princeton	Oct. 10, 1861	Killed at Shiloh, April 6, '62
Johnson John O	Andover	Sept. 20, 1861	Re-enlisted as Veteran
Johnson Hans	Bishop Hill	Sept. 16, 1861	Term expired 1864
Johnson Andrew	Moline	Sept. 25, 1861	" "
Johnson John	Bishop Hill	Oct. 3, 1861	
Johnson Nils	Princeton	Sept. 21, 1861	Re-enlisted as Veteran
Johnson John	Andover	Oct. 11, 1861	" "
Johnson N. J	Henry	Oct. 8, 1861	Term expired 1864
Johnson John	Moline	Sept. 25, 1861	Re-enlisted as Veteran
Lind John	Berlin	"	Died at Hamburg, Tenn., May 13, 1862
Lindgren Jonas	Bishop Hill	Oct. 6, 1861	Term expired 1864
Lock Andrew	"	Sept. 25, 1861	M. O. to date, Dec. 25, '64
Larson Lars	"	Dec. 7, 1861	Disch. July 5, '62; disability
Matthews Olof	"	Sept. 16, 1861	Re enlisted as Veteran
Moberg Jonas	Andover	Sept. 25, 1861	Died, Corinth, Aug. 24, '62
Norstedt Olof	Bishop Hill	"	Re-enlisted as Veteran
Neston Charles	"	"	" "
Norline Olof	"	Sept. 14, 1861	Term expired 1864
Norlund Lars	Victoria	Dec. 20, 1861	Disch. July 5, '62; disability
Olson William O	Moline	Sept. 25, 1881	Re-enlisted as Veteran
Olson Peter	Bishop Hill	"	Term expired 1864
Olson Eric	"	Dec. 4, 1861	Discharged Feb 8, '62
Peterson John P	"	Oct. 7, 1861	" Sept. 9, '62; disability
Peterson Lars F	Swede Bend, Ia.	Oct. 10, 1861	" July 3, '62; wounds
Peterson Peter	Bishop Hill	Sept. 25, 1861	" July 10, '62; disability
Peterson Nels	"	Sept. 16, 1861	
Peterson Andrew	Princeton	Oct. 22, 1861	
Peterson Magnus	Bishop Hill	Nov. 25, 1861	Disch. July 12, '62; disability
Peterson P. L	Victoria	Dec. 20, 1861	" May 29, '62; disability
Peel Otto W	Bishop Hill	Sept. 16, 1861	Killed at Corinth, Oct. 3, '62
Rudeman Olof	Victoria	Dec. 19, 1861	Term expired 1864
Swanson Nils	Bishop Hill	Sept. 25, 1861	Re-enlisted as Veteran
Tillman Nils	Weller	Oct. 10, 1861	" "
Tolin Charles	Geneseo	Sept. 22, 1861	" "
Trolin Eric J	Bishop Hill	Dec. 7, 1861	
Valentine Chas. J. Y	Geneseo	Sept. 29, 1861	Deserted
Westlund Jonas	Bishop Hill	Sept. 25, 1861	Died at Corinth July 9, '62
Wickstrum Hans	"	Sept. 16, 1861	Re-enlisted as Veteran
Young Frank	Princeton	Dec. 15, 1861	" "
Veterans			
Anderson Olof	Bishop Hill	Dec. 27, 1863	Promoted to 2d Lieutenant
Anderson Peter E	Galva	"	Mustered out July 7, '65
Anderson August	Berlin	"	Trans. to Co. F, Oct. 2, '64
Anderson Andrew	Galesburg	"	Mustered out July 7, '65
Blom Gustaf	Chicago	"	" "
Caline Eric	Galva	"	" "
Danielson Daniel	Bishop Hill	"	M. O. July 7, '65, as Corporal.
Erickson Lars	"	"	" "
Erickson Eric	Moline	"	Mustered out July 7, '65
Erickson Charles J	"	"	" "
Forsell Jonas	Bishop Hill	"	Committed suicide, June 27, '65
Frederickson Claus	Chicago	"	Mustered out July 7, '65
Granat John	Galesburg	"	" "
Hartz Andrew	Bishop Hill	"	" "
Johnson John	Andover	"	" "
Johnson Nils	Princeton	"	M. O. July 7, '65
Johnson John O	Andover	"	M. O. July 7, '65, as Corporal
Johnson Claus	Chicago	"	" as Sergeant
Johnson Peter	Bishop Hill	"	M. O. July 7, '65, as Sergeant
Johnson Jonas M	"	"	" July 7, '65, as 1st Sergt

Name and Rank	Residence	Date of rank or enlistment	Remarks
Privates			
Johnson John	Moline	Dec. 27, 1863	Mustered out July 7, 1865
Larson Andrew	Chicago	"	" "
Matthews Olof	Bishop Hill	"	M. O. July 7, '65, as Sergeant
Neston Charles	"	"	M. O July 7, '65, as Corporal
Norstedt Olof	"	"	Mustered out July 7, 1865
Olson William O.	Moline	"	M. O. July 7, '65. as Sergeant
Peterson John	Bishop Hill	"	Mustered out July 7, 1865
Swanson Nils	"	"	Died at Newark, N.J., May 16, '65
Swanson Peter	Chicago	"	Mustered out July 7, 1865
Tillman Nils	Weller	"	Died, Rome, Ga., June 15, '65
Tolin Charles	Geneseo	"	Mustered out July 7. 1865
Warner Andrew G.	Andover	"	Com'd 2d Lieut.; not mustered. prom. Capt. 63d U. S. Col'd Inf. from Sergt. Apr. 5. '64.
Wickstrum Hans	Bishop Hill	"	M. O. July 7. '65. as Corporal
Young Frank	Princeton	"	" "
Recruits			
Anderson Nils P.	Bishop Hill	Feb. 20, 1864	Mustered out July 7. 1865
Anderson John G.	Berlin	Feb. 13, 1864	" "
Anderson Peter	Princeton	Aug. 25, 1862	" "
Anderson Andrew			Re-enlisted as Veteran
Anglund Eric	Galva	Feb. 12, 1864	Mustered out July 7, '65.
Almquist Eric	Chicago	Oct. 5, 1864	" "
Burnison Charles G	Berlin	Feb. 13, 1864	" "
Blom Gustaf	Cook co.	Jan. 5, 1862	Re-enlisted as Veteran
Beck John P.	Watertown	Jan. 26, 1862	Disch. Oct. 19. '62; wounds
Blom John	Bishop Hill	Nov. 3. 1861	Disch. Aug. 23 '62; disability
Erickson Jonas	"	Feb, 18, 1864	Mustered out July 7, 1865
Erickson John	Truro	Feb. 15, 1864	" "
Erickson Andrew	Chicago	Feb. 29, 1864	" "
Erickson Erick	Moline	Jan. 6, 1862	Re-enlisted as Veteran
Erickson Charles J.	"	July 11, 1862	" "
Eastlund Charles E.	Bishop Hill	Feb. 18, 1864	Disch. Jan. 28, '65; disability
Frederickson Claus.	Cook co.	Jan. 4, 1862	Re-enlisted as Veteran
Forsse Olof	Chicago	Feb. 21, 1864	Mustered out July 7, 1865
Hanson Eric	Galva	Dec. 1, 1862	" "
Haslett Peter	"	Sept. 6, 1862	" "
Hartsell John E.	Moline	Jan. 6, 1862	Disch. Aug. 23, '62; disability
Hedberg Eric	Galva		Died at Corinth July 10, '62
Imberg Peter	Victoria	Feb. 8, 1864	Mustered out July 7, 1865
Johnson Charles J.	Berlin	Feb. 13, 1864	" "
Johnson Olof	Galesburg	Feb. 12, 1864	" "
Johnson Andrew P.	Princeton	Sept. 9, 1862	" "
Johnson Swan P.	"	Aug. 25, 1862	" "
Johnson Claus	Cook co.	Jan. 4, 1862	Re-enlisted as Veteran
Johnson Gustaf	Moline	Jan. 26, 1862	Disch. June 18, '62; disability
Jones Andrew	Weller	Dec. 20, 1861	Disch. Aug. 23, '62; wounds
Knuth William	Bureau	Dec. 28 1861	Disch. Oct. 20, '62; disability
Lagerlof Frans O.	Andover	Feb. 26, 1864	Mustered out July 7, 1865
Landgren Adolph	Chicago	March 16, 1864	Died, Rome, Ga., June 30, 1864
Larson Andrew	Cook co.	Jan. 4, 1862	Re-enlisted as Veteran
Martin Swan H	Chicago	Feb. 20, 1864	Mustered out July 7, 1865
Nord Andrew	Galva	Nov. 15, 1861	
Nord John M	Berlin	Feb. 13, 1864	Mustered out July 7. 1865.
Nordstedt Frederick	Bishop Hill	March 29, 1864	" "
Nordine Jonas		Sept. 18, 1863	" "
Nordquist Louis	Wataga	Dec. 25, 1861	Term expired 1864
Nyberg Thomas	Bishop Hill		Disch June 16, '62, disability
Olson Eric	Chicago	Feb. 21, 1864	Mustered out July 7, 1865
Peterson John	Bishop Hill	Nov. 7. 1861	Re-enlisted as Veteran

Name and Rank	Residence	Date of rank or enlistment	Remarks
Recruits			
Peterson Jacob G.	Chicago	Feb. 20, 1861	Mustered out July 7, '65
Pierson John	"	"	" "
Peterson William	Princeton	Sept. 5, 1862	" "
Swanson August	Chicago	March 15, 1864	" "
Swanson Peter	Cook co	Jan. 4, 1862	Re-enlisted as Veteran
Wood Andrew	Bishop Hill		Disch. Aug 7, '62; wounds
Young Fred	Princeton	Jan. 15, 1862	Term expired, 1864

Major Eric Forsse

Major Eric Forsse was a native of the Swedish province of Dalarne, where he was born March 4, 1819, in the parish of Malung. He served for twelve years in the Swedish army prior to his emigration in 1850. Coming to this country with his family, he landed at New Orleans and took a steamboat up the Mississippi to St. Louis, where he was laid up as a cholera patient for some time. After getting well, he proceeded with his family to Galesburg, and removed in turn to Knoxville, to Moline and to Bishop Hill, settling there in the winter of 1851-2 and remaining until after the colony had been dissolved. As already told, the organization in 1860 of a military company, which later became Co. D of the 57th Ill. Vol. Inf., was the work of Eric Forsse, who served as captain from its inception and was given the same rank in the army. He enlisted in the summer of 1861 and was mustered into service Sept. 14th the same year. When Major Norman B. Page of the 57th Regiment fell in the Battle of Shiloh, Captain Forsse was promoted major to take his place, the commission being dated April 15, 1862. His ability was recognized by his superiors and he was sometimes called upon to command as large a force as a brigade, which was the case at Allatoona Pass. He shared the hardships and triumphs of the campaign with his regiment until after the fall of Atlanta, when he resigned together with a large number of other officers, confident that their services were little needed from that time on. Having been mustered out Oct. 16, 1864, Major Forsse returned home, bought a 160-acre farm northwest of Galva and disposed of his share of the colony property at Bishop Hill. In November, 1869, he sold out and removed to Saline county, Kansas, where he had purchased a section of railroad land. Major Forsse headed a party of some 50 Swedes who located at or near Falun at this time, forming the nucleus of a large and prosperous Swedish-American settlement.

When a postoffice was established at Falun in 1870 Forsse was made postmaster and retained the position for seventeen consecutive years, serving all this time as township trustee and justice of the peace

In the fall of 1872 he was elected to the Kansas legislature and served as a member for one term.

Major Forsse, gallant fighter and trusted citizen, passed away on



Major Eric Forsse

April 18, 1889. Of his family of five children three survive, including the oldest son, Olof, born July 8, 1842. He also served in Co. D, joining as a recruit in February, 1864, and remaining in the service, as high private in the rear rank, until mustered out July 7, 1865. Olof Forsse, who is a dealer in grain, coal and farm implements at Falun, has served

the county for three years as county commissioner and seven years as sheriff.

Captain Eric Johnson

Captain Eric Johnson's military record is brief, but creditable. At the time of enlistment he was a puny stripling and would not have joined the army but for the military enthusiasm of the time and possibly a spark of the fighting spirit inherited from his grandfather on his mother's side, who was a veteran of Sweden's war with Russia. Johnson enlisted as a private, but at the organization of the company at Camp Bureau he was elected first lieutenant. After the battle of Shiloh, when Capt. Eric Forsse was promoted major of the regiment, Co. D held a new election April 15th, and Eric Johnson was chosen captain to fill the vacancy. During the siege of Corinth, he was stricken down with typhoid fever and brought so near death's door that arrangements were made to ship his body home. Somehow he rallied from the fever, but was attacked by another disease, and upon the urgent advice of the regimental surgeon resigned the captaincy and left the army Sept. 3, 1862, about one year after enlistment.

An incident which occurred in the summer of 1862 in Capt. Johnson's company is worthy of record as showing how the Swedish boys in the field, as well as the nationality in general, felt on the subject of slavery.

The Democratic party secured power in Illinois after so many Republicans had enlisted, and in order to make hay while the sun was shining they called a constitutional convention. Among the pro-slavery articles framed for the new constitution several were submitted to the voters in the form of separate propositions. To make a show of fairness, the Democrats allowed the Illinois soldiers in the field to vote upon the proposed constitution, and sent a commission of three Democrats, with the notorious "Sam" Buckmaster as chairman, to poll the vote of the soldiers. The balloting was not secret, but as each soldier appeared before the commissioners he was asked how he wished to vote on each separate proposition, and his answer was recorded on prepared tabular sheets. When it came to the negro propositions, if the vote of the soldier was not satisfactory to the commissioners, they would say, "You do not want to find your sister married to a negro, when you return from the war." Of course the soldier would answer "No," and this answer would be recorded as his vote on a proposition to which the voter at first assented. Company D was the fourth in order, and its members, having noticed how the soldiers were being confused and made to vote contrary to their convictions, went to Eric Johnson and said: "Captain, we want you to vote first, and when our turn

comes, we will have them record our votes the same as yours." Capt. Johnson voted not only against all the Democratic propositions on the negro question, but against the entire pro-slavery constitution as well. To a man his company voted the same way. When the last vote of Co. D had been polled, Buckmaster remarked with an oath: "That was the d—dest black abolition company in the service."

Another incident highly creditable to Co. D is a part of the record of the company during the first summer's campaigning, which might properly have been recorded in the official history of the regiment.



Prize Drill Flag, Co. D, 57th Ill. Infantry, Carried in 4th of July parade at Bishop Hill

In the early part of the year (1862), Col. Baldwin of the 57th sent to Chicago and bought a beautiful silk flag for $125, which he offered as a reward to the best drilled company in the regiment. Several months were allowed for drill, and about half of the companies entered for the competition. Some time in July the exhibition drill took place, with three officers of the regular army acting as judges. In the regiment was a wholly German company (Co. G), and when this and the Swedish company had drilled, the companies still remaining withdrew from the competition, deeming further efforts hopeless. After comparing notes, the judges reported that as between the Germans and the

Swedes they were unable to decide. They therefore requested them to repeat their drill, which embraced marching and battalion movements in addition to the manual of arms. After the second drill the award was unanimously given to Co D, the Swedish company. This flag is still preserved at Bishop Hill—the trophy of a friendly contest in time of war.

Captain Peter M. Wickstrum

Capt. Peter M. Wickstrum was born March 3, 1827, in Mo parish, Helsingland, Sweden. He was a son of Mathias and Anna (Nelson) Wickstrum. When he was six years old his mother died, leaving two sons, of whom Peter was the younger. His early aptitude for learning made him the favorite child, and almost constant companion of his father. From him he acquired a love of legendary lore and a thirst for knowledge. His father was a man of more than average intellect, but fate had placed him where he must labor for his daily bread where the hours were long and the pay meager. Determined that his younger son should have some of the advantages denied himself, he sent him to school at Söderhamn. But as soon as he reached an age when he could be of use, he was taken out of school and put to work. At that time there were only two men in the whole parish who were readers of a newspaper, the young Peter and his employer, the two together subscribing for one paper. At the age of twenty-one he married Miss Ingrid Bergquist. Shortly after that he came in contact with an influence destined to shape his remaining life.

Helsingland was in a state of ferment over the teachings of Eric Jansson. Young Wickstrum became a convert, and with his wife and young child sailed for America in the spring of 1850. He became a member of the Bishop Hill Colony and worked there until its dissolution in 1860. He learned the English language with the aid of a small dictionary loaned him, and at night plugged the keyhole in the door to shut off the light that would have betrayed him, for at that time the study of English was frowned upon in the colony. Ten years of a deadening routine dampened his religious ardor and caused him to adopt more liberal views than those taught at Bishop Hill.

On Sept. 14, 1861, Mr. Wickstrum enlisted in the 57th Ill. Vol. Inf., Co. D, as a private, and was appointed orderly sergeant. After the battle of Shiloh he was promoted second lieutenant, and on Sept. 3rd of the same year he was again promoted, this time to the position of captain to succeed Eric Johnson, resigned, which rank he held until the close of the war, receiving an honorable discharge July 7, 1865. He participated in the battles of Fort Donelson, Shiloh, siege of Corinth, Sherman's campaign before Atlanta, and in his famous march

from Atlanta to the sea. He fought in the battle of Bentonville while on the march to the sea, and also participated in many minor skirmishes and engagements.

After the war he returned home, purchased a farm of 210 acres near the village of Galva, and settled down to a peaceful rural life. For the first time he was now free to live his life according to his own dictates. His love for knowledge was revived. However hard the



Captain Peter M. Wickstrum

labors of the day, night found him with his beloved books and papers. He was more of a reader and thinker than a farmer; in fact, he had no relish for any work that took him away from his books. He left his children no greater heritage than this love of freedom, the desire to know and to grow. He believed that love is more than dogma, that humanity is the greatest church.

Capt. Wickstrum died at his home in Galva, Ill., Oct. 30, 1890, leaving a wife and four children, one daughter and three sons.

Politically he was a Democrat, socially he was a member of the G. A. R., belonging to Galva Post, No. 33.

Captain Andrew G. Warner

Captain A. G. Warner was born in northern Helsingland, Sweden, July 13, 1837. His parents emigrated in 1850 and located at Andover, Henry county, where the family, including the son and two daughters, engaged in farming. Young Warner was a member of the military company organized in and around Bishop Hill in 1860, which joined the army of volunteers in September, 1861, and was designated as Co. D in the 57th regiment of infantry, Warner being appointed first



Captain Andrew G. Warner

corporal at its organization as a part of the army. In the battle of Shiloh he received an ugly bullet wound in his right arm, but refused a furlough and staid with the company, performing his duties while carrying the arm in a sling. He was soon promoted first sergeant and subsequently second lieutenant. In 1864 the government organized regiments of colored troops officered by experienced white soldiers. These commands were not eagerly sought for, because in case of capture the rebels would show no mercy to either the colored soldiers or their officers. Warner, however, volunteered to accept one of these perilous posts, and on the 7th day of March, 1864, he was commissioned

captain of Co. A, 63rd U. S. Colored Infantry. He served as such until the 9th day of January, 1866, when he was mustered out of the service at Duval's Bluff, Arkansas, after an honorable service of 4 years, 3 months and 15 days.

At the close of the war Captain Warner again settled down as a farmer at his old home in Andover. In the fall of 1868 he was called away from his agricultural pursuits by election to the office of sheriff, as an independent candidate running against the regular Republican candidate, winning by a majority of 116 votes, while the county gave General Grant for President a majority of over 2,700 votes. Warner was nominated by an independent convention of Swedish voters after their request for a place on the Republican county ticket had been denied, whereupon the Democrats refrained from making a nomination and assisted in electing Captain Warner. At the end of his term of office he took a trip west to find a new home and located in Page county, Iowa, where he removed with his family in the spring of 1871. On Dec. 4, 1865, Capt. Warner married Mathilda Johnson, the only daughter of Erik Jansson, founder of Bishop Hill. On Dec. 5, 1875, just ten years after, he died at his Page county home, leaving her a widow with two children Charles A. Warner, who still lives at the old homestead, and Mamie Warner, now Mrs. Thomas.

Major Eric Bergland

Major Eric Bergland, Corps of Engineers U. S. Army, retired, enlisted at the age of seventeen in Company D, Fifty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, Sept. 14, 1861.

In December, 1861, he was mustered into U. S. service as second lieutenant and in April, 1862, was promoted to first lieutenant, in which capacity he served until the regiment was mustered out of service after the close of hostilities.

During his connection with the 57th Illinois Volunteer Infantry he took part in the capture of Fort Donelson, the battles of Shiloh, Corinth and Resaca, the latter part of this time being in command of his company. While in the field at Rome, Georgia, in the autumn of 1864, he received an appointment as cadet at the U. S. Military Academy at West Point, New York. On reporting to the superintendent of the military academy, Nov. 16, 1864, he was informed that his class, which had begun their studies September 1st, was already well advanced and that it would require considerable previous knowledge of mathematics to be able to make up before the January examination for the time lost.

As before enlisting in the army he had only enjoyed the advantages of a village school education, and knew nothing of higher mathematics,

he thought it highly improbable that he would be able to prepare for the January examination after being nearly two months behind his classmates. On the advice of the superintendent he therefore applied to the Secretary of War to have his appointment extended to the following June, when he could enter on more nearly equal terms with other members of his class. This request was granted and he was in the meantime ordered to Johnson's Island, Ohio, for duty as assistant to Captain Tardy, Corps of Engineers, until June 1st, 1865.

He entered the military academy as a cadet July 1, 1865, and was graduated June 15, 1869, at the head of his class. The staff corps being then closed by Act of Congress, he was commissioned as second



Major Eric Bergland

lieutenant Fifth Artillery and stationed at Fort Warren, Mass.; at Fort Trumbull, Conn.; in the field on the Canadian boundary during the Fenian raid, 1870; at Artillery School, Fort Monroe, 1872. While there, he was transferred to the Corps of Engineers and promoted to first lieutenant. He was promoted captain January 10, 1884, and major Oct. 12, 1895.

Since his transfer to the Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army, he has served with the Engineer Battalion as a company officer; has been instructor of military engineering and mathematics and assistant professor of ethics and law at the U. S. Military Academy; assistant engineer on western surveys, under Capt. George M. Wheeler, for three years in California, Arizona, Nevada and Colorado; engineer in charge of river and harbor improvements in Tennessee, Mississippi, Arkansas,

Louisiana and Texas; in command of Company C, Battalion of Engineers, and instructor of civil engineering at U. S. Engineer School at Willets Point, New York; was ordered to Johnstown, Penn., a week after the great flood, in charge of a detachment and bridge train and ordered to replace by pontoon bridges those swept away by the flood.

In November, 1891, he was ordered to Baltimore as engineer of the 5th and 6th Light House District. During four years' service as above he built light houses at Cape Charles, Hog Island, Wolf Trap and other points. He retired from active service March 31, 1896, on his own application, after over 30 years' service, and resides, since retirement, at Baltimore, Md.

Major Eric Bergland is a native of the province of Helsingland, Sweden, born at Alfta April 21, 1844. In 1846 he was brought to the United States, his father, Anders Berglund, being one of the leaders of a party of Erik Janssonists, who emigrated that year. He was reared in the Bishop Hill Colony. At the age of twelve, Eric was put to work in the colony printing office at Galva and some years later was given the management of that modest establishment. He was thus employed up to 1861, when he enlisted for service in the Civil War. As shown, the young volunteer served with credit and he was the first cadet of Swedish birth to be admitted to West Point.

On June 5, 1878, Major Bergland was joined in marriage to Lucy Scott McFarland of Kentucky, a cousin of the wife of President Rutherford B. Hayes.

Charles John Stolbrand, Chief of Artillery, Brigadier General

Charles John Stolbrand was born at or near the city of Kristianstad, Sweden, May 11, 1821. His original name was Carl Johan Möller. At the age of eighteen he entered military service as a constable cadet in the Royal Vendes Artillery. At the time, according to common custom, he exchanged his patronymic for a more martial name and was enrolled as Carl Johan Ståhlbrand. In this country the name was written Stohlbrand or Stolbrand, sometimes preceded by Carles John, but in these pages preference is given to the form found in the official war records. Prior to joining the army he was assistant to a surveyor.

Stolbrand was promoted 2nd constable in 1839, 1st constable in 1840 and sergeant in 1843. About two years later he was married to one Miss Pettersson, daughter of a non-commissioned officer. During the Danish-German War Stolbrand served in a battery attached to a Swedish army corps under Major-General Otto August Malmborg which was encamped at Flensburg from August, 1849, until June the next year. This fact is probably responsible for the assertion made that Stolbrand served Denmark as a volunteer soldier. On July 12



Brig.-General Charles John Stolbrand

1850, shortly after his return to Sweden, Stolbrand resigned, owing, it is alleged, to some differences with a superior officer, after having served for seven years as sergeant.

He came to this country in 1851, locating in Chicago, where after some time he secured a position in the office of the county recorder. During his residence in Chicago he was prominent in Swedish circles. When the Svea Society was organized, in 1857, he was chosen its president and was re-elected time and again. At the outbreak of the Civil War his martial spirit was rekindled, and at the first call for troops he raised a company, which, however, was not accepted, the quota of the state having been already filled. At the second call for volunteers, later in the same year, a second company was recruited by Stolbrand at Sycamore, where he was then engaged in making abstracts of DeKalb county land titles. This was mustered into service on Oct. 5, 1861, as Battery G, Second Ill. Light Artillery, with Stolbrand as captain, his commission being dated the day before.

On Dec. 31st Stolbrand was promoted major and subsequently he was made chief of artillery under General John A. Logan. In 1863, on Logan's succession to the command of the 15th army corps, Stolbrand was transferred to the command of its artillery brigade, virtually assuming the duties of brigadier-general. By Gen. Logan, Stolbrand was greatly admired as a fighter and was held inestimable to him as a military tactician. Sherman, who, as Gen. Wallace said, was "crazy on the subject of artillery," also accorded him unstinted praise, as told by Col. Mattson, who narrates the following:

The great General Sherman about 1866 visited St. Paul and a banquet was given to him at which I was present. During the conversation I asked about General Stolbrand. "Do you know him," he inquired. "Yes, sir, he is my countryman, and we served in the same regiment in Sweden," I replied. "Then," said he, "you may be proud of your old comrade, for a braver man and a better artillery officer than General Stolbrand could not be found in the entire army." At the same time the general told the story of Stolbrand's promotion to brigadier-general, which Mattson repeats as follows: Stolbrand had served in his corps for some time with the rank of major, and performed such services as properly belong to a colonel or brigadier-general without being promoted according to his merits, because there had been no vacancy in the regiment to which he belonged. Displeased with this, Stolbrand sent in his resignation, which was accepted, but Sherman had made up his mind not to let him leave the army, and asked him to go by way of Washington on his return home, pretending that he wished to send important dispatches to President Lincoln. In due time Stolbrand arrived in the capital and handed a sealed package to the President in person. Having looked the papers through, Lincoln ex-



General John A. Logan and Staff

tended his hand, exclaiming, "How do you do, General?" Stolbrand, correcting him, said, "I am no general; I am only a major." "You are mistaken," said Lincoln, "you are a general"—and he was from that moment. In a few hours he received his commission and later returned to the army with a rank three degrees higher than that held by him before.

After the war General Stolbrand took up his residence in South Carolina, locating at Beaufort, where he owned a plantation. In that once Confederate state the former Union commander attained prominence as a citizen, his allegiance to the Republican party always remaining unswerved. In 1868 he was elected secretary of the constitutional convention of the state. The same year he was delegate at large to the national Republican convention at Chicago and served as presidential elector. He was for some years superintendent of the state penitentiary and under Harrison's administration was superintendent of the United States government building in Charleston.

King Carl XV. of Sweden, in 1866, recognized Stolbrand's soldierly achievements by decorating him with the Royal Order of the Sword. While the latter part of his life was chiefly devoted to politics, Stolbrand was also engaged in mechanical inventions and made various improvements in steam engines and steam boilers.

He passed away in Charleston, Feb. 3, 1894, after having spent the winter months in New York. His remains were interred with military honors at Columbia, S. C., beside those of his wife. At the time of Stolbrand's death, three of his children were living in New York, and one married daughter, a Mrs. Strobel, in Atlanta, Ga.

One who was intimate with Gen. Stolbrand in his later years gave to the "News and Courier" of Charleston at the time of his death certain recollections, which tend to reveal some of the traits of the man. Stolbrand often spoke of his life in Sweden, particularly of his career as professor of horsemanship and sword exercises in the Swedish army, and claimed that he had drilled King Oscar II. while the latter was a cadet.* He said that the prince was very difficult to manage, but that he, Stolbrand, was upheld in his discipline of the young prince by the king, his father. Before entering the federal army, Stolbrand had been engaged in irrigation enterprises in the Northwest. He also related how he had invented a shoe of sufficient size to enable him to move about on water, carrying his military equipments, and had learned to use such a pair of shoes with dexterity and ease. While he resided in Columbia Stolbrand had fitted up in his watermelon patch a trap for thieves, so if they attempted to steal his melons the guns would go

* For this story the known facts in Stolbrand's life furnish not the slightest support. It merely betrays in him a fondness for making an impression in narrating past experiences, real or fancied.

off and kill them. In connection with stories of his army career in this country the general would show with great pride the burning-glass with which he claimed to have fired the gun that sent the first ball that struck the state-house in Columbia. He was an enthusiastic member of the Grand Army of the Republic and a firm believer in its patriotic objects.

To complete the account of Stolbrand's military career the following data, culled from the army records, are added as showing more precisely the functions performed by him during the war. As major, Stolbrand in September, 1862, is shown to have been in command of five batteries of Brig.-Gen. John A. Logan's artillery brigade in the district of Jackson, Tenn., and in November he had a brigade of nine batteries of Maj.-Gen. Stephen A. Hurlbut's division under him. He commanded five batteries in the siege of Vicksburg and the largest force under his command at any one time was ten batteries. Ample testimony of Stolbrand's usefulness in the operations before Vicksburg is given by Gen. Logan, who repeatedly compliments him in his report of May 26th, thus: "The admirable manner in which this battery was handled reflects the highest credit upon Maj. Stolbrand, my chief of artillery."—"The respective batteries.... under the personal supervision of Major Stolbrand rendered incalculable aid in effectually shelling the enemy."—"To Major Stolbrand, my chief of artillery, I am indebted for valuable aid."

In the Savannah, Ga., campaign, Nov. 15 to Dec. 31, 1864, Stolbrand took an efficient part. In the siege of Savannah, Stolbrand on Dec. 19th placed half of his batteries before the Confederate forts and uncovered and silenced the enemy's heavy batteries, whereupon the Confederates under cover of darkness abandoned the fort and the city, leaving guns and ammunition behind them. In his report a few days thereafter Maj. Gen. P. J. Osterhaus, of the 15th army corps, said: "To Major Stolbrand I have to acknowledge important services during the campaign as chief of artillery of the corps. Through his energy and skill that branch of the arms which was under his immediate care was in most excellent condition."

The one unfortunate incident in Stolbrand's army career occurred on May 19, 1864, when he fell into the hands of the enemy, while the Army of the Tennessee was encamped at Kingston, on the Etowah River. "While examining the surrounding country by my direction," says Maj. Gen. Logan in a report dated Sept. 4th, "Maj. C. J. Stolbrand, a gallant and untiring officer, was captured by a squad of the enemy's cavalry." No mention was then made of his return, but in October of that year he again figures in the reports as chief of artillery.

At his own request, Stolbrand was relieved from further duty as chief of artillery of the 15th army corps, at Beaufort, S. C., on Jan. 28,

1865, his three years' term of service having expired. In February his promotion to brigadier-general, as told by Sherman, took place. On March 30th, as brigadier-general, he was by the Secretary of War ordered to report in person to Maj. Gen. Sherman for assignment to duty. A month later he was placed in command of the second brigade, fourth division, 17th army corps, formed from the 14th, 15th and 32nd Ill. Vol. Inf. The brigade marched north from Raleigh, N. C., April 29th, passed in review through Washington May 24th, whence it was sent via Louisville and St. Louis to Fort Leavenworth. After brief service on the plains of the far West the three regiments were mustered out at Fort Leavenworth in September, terminating Stolbrand's command. One of his last assignments was to the temporary command of the Fort Leavenworth district in the absence of the general commanding. Brig.-Gen. Stolbrand continued to hold his commission until January, 1866, when he was mustered out of service.

The Swedish members of Stolbrand's Battery were: Oscar L. Ekvall of Chicago, enlisted Aug. 6, 1861, mustered in Oct. 5th, re-enlisted as veteran March 1, 1864, mustered out Sept. 4, 1865; Francis Lindebeck of Chicago, enlisted Aug. 6, 1861, mustered in Oct. 5th, drowned by sinking of the steamer Horizon on the Mississippi river, May 1, 1863; Claes Mathiason of Galesburg, enlisted Aug. 6, 1861, re-enlisted as veteran March 1, 1864, died at Montgomery, Ala., July 14, 1865; Charles J. Mellberg of Mendota, enlisted Aug. 6, 1861, re-enlisted as veteran March 1, 1864, discharged Aug. 7, 1865, as corporal, supernumerary; Sven August Videll of Chicago, enlisted Aug. 6, 1861, mustered out Oct. 4, 1864; Andrew Burgstrom of Chicago, enlisted Jan. 28, 1864, mustered out Sept. 4, 1865; Nicholas Carlson, enlisted and mustered in Jan. 1, 1862, drowned by sinking of the steamer Horizon on the Mississippi river May 1, 1863; Oscar Kelburg, enlisted and mustered in Sept. 13, 1864, mustered out June 3, 1865; Joseph Esbyorn of Chicago, enlisted Aug. 6, 1861, mustered in Oct. 5th, re-enlisted as veteran. Other members of the battery, apparently of Swedish blood, were, Olson L. Durkee of Chicago, Alfred Hall of Rockford and John Vehlen of Chicago.

Capt. Frederick Sparrestrom and Battery G, 2d Light Artillery

Frederick Sparrestrom enlisted at Chicago in the second company of artillery organized by Charles J. Stolbrand. When on Sept. 16, 1861, this company was mustered into service as Battery G, of the Second Light Artillery regiment, he was commissioned first lieutenant. The battery was recruited mostly from Sycamore, Chicago, DeKalb, Belvidere, Joliet and Rockford. Early in December the battery was ordered to Cairo, Ill., where it was assigned to Gen. Paine's

division and furnished with two Napoleon and four Rodman guns. In the meantime the men were detailed to man the Howitzers used in the attacks on Forts Henry and Donelson.

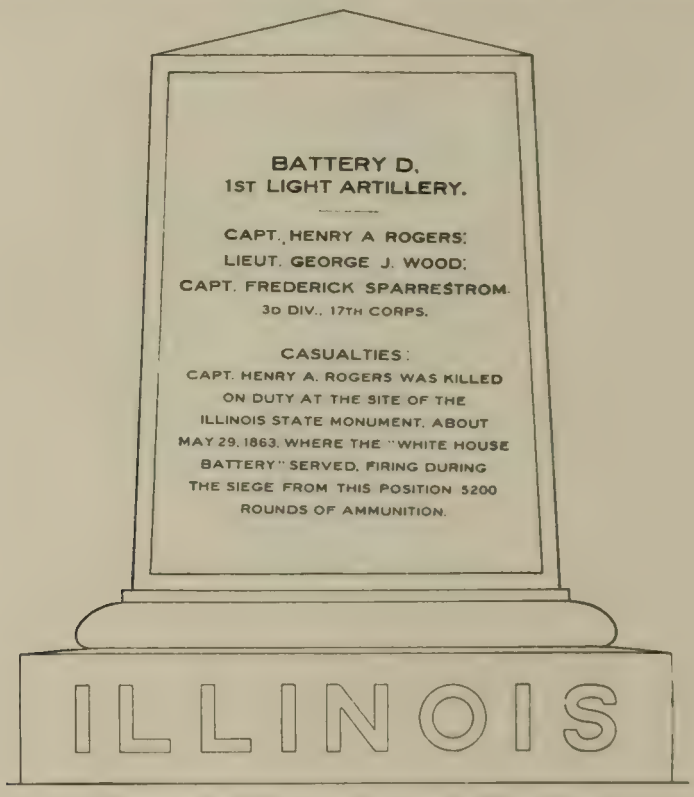
Sparrestrom served as second in command until Dec. 31st, when, upon Stolbrand's promotion to major of the second artillery regiment,



Captain Frederick Sparrestrom

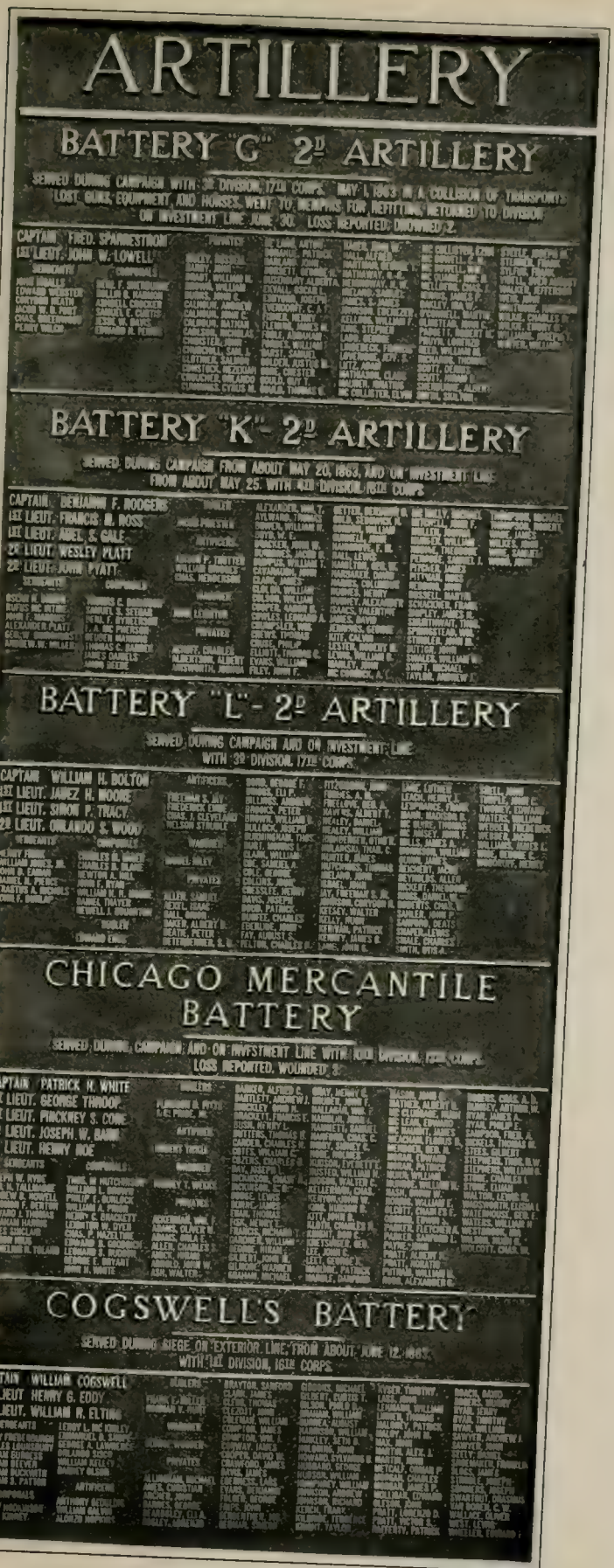
Sparrestrom succeeded to the captaincy. The battery served under Stolbrand, the chief of artillery in Logan's army, and was generally a part of the artillery brigades commanded by Stolbrand from time to time. On May 1, 1863, the battery was sunk in a collision, while being ferried across the Mississippi river to Bruinsburg, Miss. Two men and most of the horses were drowned. The battery was re-equipped at Memphis and returned to Gen. Logan by June 30th. In the interval Sparrestrom was detailed to take charge of Battery D, First Ill. Artillery, whose captain had been killed on May 29th, and whose lieutenant was sick. In this capacity he served during the month of June, participating in the siege of Vicksburg. About July 1st Sparrestrom re-

sumed command of his own battery, which took part in several expeditions around Vicksburg. In December it moved to Union City and was engaged in the campaign against Gen. Forrest. Early the next spring it went to Columbus, Ky., where it was reorganized and veteranized. Returning, it took part in the expedition to Tupelo, Miss., and in July and August in the expeditions to Holly Springs and Oxford. In



Monument at Vicksburg National Military Park

September it joined Gen. A. J. Smith's army corps in pursuit of Gen. Price in Missouri. In November, 1864, it moved to Nashville and participated in the fighting of December 15th and 16th. From here it joined in the pursuit of the defeated Confederate army. The battery subsequently took part in the Mobile campaign and in the siege and capture of Fort Blakely. Sparrestrom resigned from the service Aug. 22, 1864, and the battery was mustered out Sept. 4, 1865. Sparrestrom, of whom we have no information beyond his military career, proved himself a gallant and skillful officer and rendered efficient service wherever placed during his three years in the army. Two of the Illinois monuments in the Vicksburg military park bear his name.



Tablet in Illinois State Memorial Temple, Vicksburg National Military Park

Lieutenant Joseph E. Osborn

Joseph E. Osborn has had a varied career in the army service as well as in civil life. He was born July 12, 1843, at Hille, Helsingland, Sweden, where his father, Rev. L. P. Esbjörn, then served as pastor and schoolmaster. The family came to America in 1849, locating in Andover, Ill. The son Joseph attended Capital University for a short period at the age of eleven, then worked on "Hemlandet" as typo and roller boy, when that paper was started in Galesburg. In 1858-60 he studied at the Illinois State University at Springfield, where his father taught.

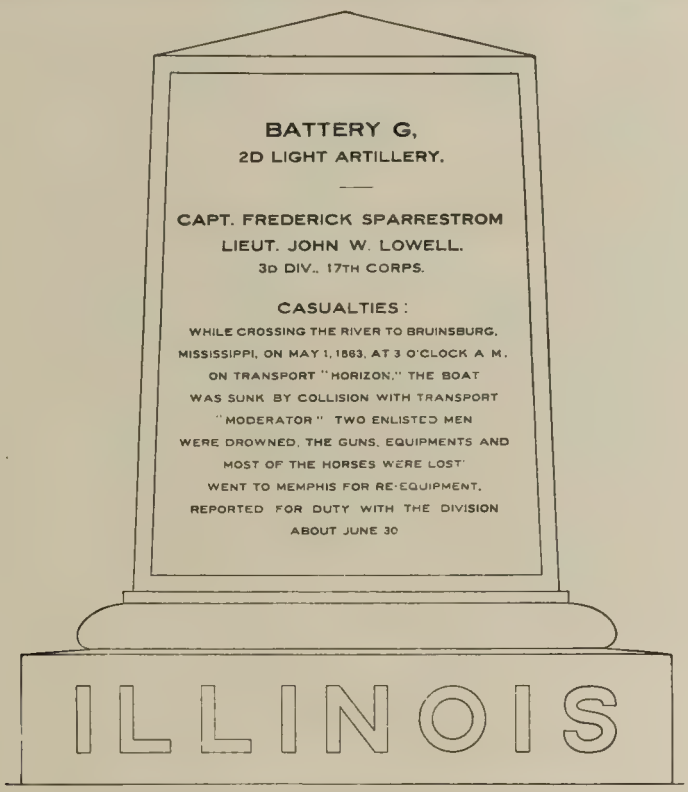


Lieutenant Joseph E. Osborn

While there he became acquainted in a boyish way with Abraham Lincoln and more intimately so with his son Robert, who attended the same school. The Esbjörn family having removed to Chicago in 1860, Joseph worked at the printer's trade until the war broke out, when he enlisted immediately in a company recruited by Charles J. Stolbrand. The quota being already filled, the company was not accepted, but at the second call for volunteers Stolbrand again raised a company, which young Esbjörn joined Aug. 12, 1861. He served with this organization, known as Battery G., Second Ill. Light Artillery, until July, 1863, when, after the siege of Vicksburg, he was placed on detached service at Gen. Logan's headquarters, where he served for several months.

During this time Stolbrand offered Osborn the captaincy in the 11th Miss. Inf., a colored regiment, which he declined and rejoined the

battery. Early in 1864 he applied to be examined for a commission in a colored regiment and, after passing the examination at Memphis, Tenn., was commissioned second lieutenant and assigned to Co. G., 4th U. S. Heavy Artillery, colored, in garrison at Columbus, Ky. He was at once appointed on the staff of Maj.-Gen. Ord, commander of the department of the Mississippi, and placed in charge of the U. S. ordnance depot at Columbus, a responsible place for a man of twenty-one. Relieved of the command after eight months, he was appointed post commissary at the same point, to succeed Maj. Overton. When relieved



Monument at Vicksburg National Military Park

of his duties as such, he was made provost marshal of the Freedmen's Bureau. He again rejoined the regiment late in the fall of 1865, when ordered to Arkansas, where it was mustered out Feb. 5, 1866, Osborn being at the time in command of a company, although not holding a captain's commission.

Osborn, after a visit north, took charge of a store in Corinth, Miss., owned by Gen. Eaton. In 1867 he visited his relatives in Sweden, returning the following year, when he became cashier and general bookkeeper for the American Emigrant Co., and in 1869 traveling repre-

sentative for the company. He was sent to Sweden in 1871 by the C. B. & Q. Railway Co., to advertise their lands in Iowa and Nebraska, and remained two years. On his return he opened a steamship ticket and foreign exchange office and importing and exporting agency, and was laying the foundation for a very promising business when, during his absence in the West, the stealings of a confidential clerk caused his failure.

Osborn in 1874 associated himself with two clergymen, J. G. Princell and A. Hult, for the purpose of founding "Barnvännen," a juvenile paper published in Chicago for a number of years. In 1875-6 he was organist of the Swedish Lutheran Church of Boston. While there he was married, Sept. 19, 1876, to Miss Anna I. Bergström. From 1877 to 1883 he served as school teacher and organist of his father's old charge in Andover, Ill.

Osborn was associated with Capt. Eric Johnson in the publishing of "The Swedish Citizen," a paper finally named "The Daily and Weekly Moline Citizen." In 1883 he severed his connection with the publication and removed to St. Paul to become manager of "Skaffaren" ("Minnesota Stats-Tidning"). In that city he now holds a position in the office of the State Auditor.

Captain Andrew Stenbeck

Captain Andrew Stenbeck, who commanded Battery H, 2nd Illinois Light Artillery from date of muster Dec. 31, 1861, until his resignation May 25, 1863, was a native of Hafvaröd, Skane, Sweden, where he was born Feb. 12, 1828. Emigrating in 1854, he settled in Galesburg. In December, 1861, having enlisted as a volunteer, he organized the battery at Camp Butler, Springfield, and on the last of the month received his captain's commission, partly through the influence of C. J. Stolbrand, then captain of Co. G, 2nd Ill. Artillery, and a former comrade in arms in the Swedish army. Captain Stenbeck fought at Fort Donelson, Shiloh, Clarksville, Nashville, and led his company through a number of other operations in the Tennessee campaign. After having resigned his command, Stenbeck located in St. Louis, where he served as superintendent of Benton Barracks until 1866, when in the piping time of peace he removed to Chicago and became a piano tuner. Capt Stenbeck had a desire to enter the regular army, and after peace was restored applied to Johnson for a captaincy, which was denied, the President offering him the rank of first lieutenant, which Stenbeck declined. All through his vocation as a tuner, Capt. Stenbeck worked in connection with the firm of Julius Bauer and Company. He was an amateur violinist of no mean talent. To relieve the strain on his nerves and hearing incident to his vocation, he secured an appointment as

deputy under Sheriff Mattson, but failing health compelled him to resign the position after a few months, resuming his former employ-



Captain Andrew Stenbeck

ment. He passed away at his home in Chicago Dec. 14, 1891, leaving a widow, Mrs. Caroline Stenbeck, and three children, of whom a son, Edward Stenbeck, of Denver, Colo., survives.

Capt. Axel Silfversparre and Battery H, 1st Regt. Light Artillery

In 1861, at the outbreak of the war, Axel Silfversparre, a former lieutenant of the Svea Artillery Regiment in the Swedish Army, left in order to go to the United States to fight for the Union cause. He received his commission from Gen. John C. Fremont, who at once put the knowledge and experience of the young Swedish artillery officer to good use. Silfversparre was first sent to Fort

Fremont, at Cape Girardeau, Mo., to put a number of heavy artillery pieces in place. This duty done, Silfversparre, burning with an ambition to distinguish himself in the war, went to Illinois on leave, intent on organizing a Swedish battery. On Dec. 25, 1861, he secured from the state authorities a commission to that effect and during the next two months, accompanied by John A. Anderson of Chicago, he made a recruiting tour of the Swedish settlements in the state, starting with Chicago and visiting Rockford, St. Charles, Batavia, Geneva, Sycamore, DeKalb, Princeton, Galva, Bishop Hill, Andover, Moline, Knoxville, Victoria, Galesburg, and other places. Swedish-Americans to the number of fifty joined him, besides a larger number of men of ten other nationalities. These volunteers met in Chicago to complete the organization, when the organizer, Silfversparre himself, was elected captain, while all the subordinate offices were given to men of other than Swedish descent.

Silfversparre was a scion of the Swedish nobility. His parents were Viscount Gustaf Johan Silfversparre, an ex-lieut.-colonel of the Royal Horse Guards, and his wife, Countess Sophie Mörner of Morlanda. He was born in the city of Strängnäs May 8, 1834, and educated at the Upsala University. After his graduation from college in 1852 he became a non-commissioned officer of the Svea Artillery, and was promoted second lieutenant the following year. He served in the regiment at Stockholm, Vaxholm and Hernösand until 1858, when he entered the artillery academy of Marieberg, continuing his studies until 1860. He is said to have been one of a number of army officers who after having been engaged in a fracas with civilians in Stockholm, were court-martialed and degraded. Shortly thereafter he came to the United States and was employed in Missouri as army engineer before enlisting in the volunteer army.

Captain Silfversparre's Command

The battery was mustered in at Camp Douglas, Chicago, on Feb. 20th, 1862, as Battery H, First Illinois Light Artillery, commanded by Col. Joseph D. Webster. Early in March it was ordered to Benton Barracks, Mo., where the men were given three weeks' drill and the battery was provided with four 20-pound Parrott guns. By boat they were then sent south to join the army of the Tennessee. The battery reached Pittsburg Landing on April 5th, the day before the battle. It was given a place in the center of a line of artillery protecting the landing, and aided materially in beating back the last assaults of the rebels on the first day's battle. Silfversparre here put his Swedish military training to excellent use and displayed great skill and bravery.

Silfversparre had, according to his own memoranda of the battle, most carefully prepared for the reception of the enemy, differing in that respect, as we have seen, from most of the other Union officers in that fatal affray. At that time the Swedish artillery was in point of equipment rather in advance of that of the Union army. Patterning after the Svea Artillery, Silfversparre had furnished his men with spades, picks and axes, and having planted his cannon, he had them well protected by walls of earth and logs built up in front.* To those who thought he took needless pains he explained, "My battery is put to stay, not to run." Another arrangement of his was to mount his gunners on the horses hitched to the guns so as to be instantly on hand, instead of following with the ammunition wagons. By putting handles on the sponge-heads he made it possible to reload without danger while the guns were still hot from the last discharge, thereby enabling his men to fire about five shots in the time otherwise required for one. While in St. Louis he had procured at his own expense fuses of varied length, and when in this battle the enemy closed in on his position he used the shortest lengths, with the result that when General Chalmers' column charged the battery, it was met by a blizzard of shrapnel which made further advance impossible, and the enemy was forced back with great loss. Silfversparre was personally thanked by Grant and Sherman that day for his part in checking the advance of the enemy, but like most of the heroes of the day, received no mention in Grant's report of the battle.

These arrangements are said to have rendered him many compliments in the press, which in turn aroused the envy of the other artillery officers. Twice he was court-martialed on the trumped-up charge of cruelty to the horses and wasteful handling of the ordnance stores and material, but was acquitted both times, and complimented upon his skillful tactics.

Shortly after the battle of Shiloh the Silfversparre battery was transferred to General Sherman's division and subsequently belonged to the second division of the 15th army corps until the close of the war. At the first inspection Gen. Sherman rejected the "newfangled things" introduced by Silfversparre with instructions to equip the battery in the regular way. This was done, but after the second shot subsequently fired by the battery a man lost his hand in a premature explosion of a load, all because of the absence of the handle to the sponge-head.

In September, 1862, Capt. Silfversparre was assigned to Fort

* A survivor of Battery H states as his recollection that sacks of grain and feed from the commissary stores, stacked up in front of the guns, afforded the only protection against the enemy's fire. Major Reed's account of the battle corroborates the survivor's impression in these words: "We find at Shiloh that with three exceptions no breastworks were prepared by either side on Sunday night. Of these exceptions a Union battery near the Landing was protected by a few sacks of corn piled up in front of the guns."

Pickering, near Memphis, Tenn. He was detailed by Gen. Sherman on Sept. 16th to take charge of the fixed and permanent batteries in the fort and instructed to mount and equip heavy guns, besides supervising the appurtenances of the lighter guns. The officers of the



Captain Axel Silfversparre

batteries were to be instructed by him in the manual of the guns. Sherman further directed him to instruct or supervise the drill of two of the companies and to personally drill the other two companies daily. In case of action, Silfversparre was to command the four companies. About the beginning of the next year he was also assigned as drill-

ARTILLERY

BATTERY "H" - 1ST ARTILLERY

SERVED DURING CAMPAIGN AND ON INVESTMENT LINE WITH 2D DIVISION, 13TH CORPS.
LOSS REPORTED, KILLED 1.

CAPTAIN LEVI W. HART
1ST LIEUT. LEWIS B. MITCHELL
2D LIEUT. FRANCIS DE GRESS
2D LIEUT. EDWARD ADAMS

SERGEANTS
PETER STARK
WILLIAM MARSHALL
JOHN J. BUCKLAND
WILLIAM CHURCH
H. PETER CARLSON

JOHN R. SCHUMANN
ROBERT SCOTT
JOHN A. ANDERSON
LEWIS LARSON
HENRY O. OLSON
PETER OLSON

CORPORALS
FREDERICK BONESTEEL
WINFIELD MASCHKE
HULT, PETER G.
JOHANNSON, JOHN
BRUSSON, ANDREW

AUGUST ANDERSON
P. S. WYMAN

WAGONER
CHARLES D. ROBERTS

PRIVATES
ALSTRAND, GUSTAF
ANDERSON, JOHN A.
BALLOU, GUSTAF
BECKMAN, CHARLES
BERRY, EDWIN
BERTON, HENRY
CASE, HENRY W.
CHARLETHOR, AARON
COOK, HENRY
DIXON, MARVILLE
DILBERT, CHARLES C.
JAMES-STRON, JOHN C.
HOFFMAN, JOHN
HULT, PETER G.
JOHANNSON, JOHN
BRUSSON, ANDREW

JOHNSON, AXEL
JOHNSON, RALPH C.
KYLER, GEORGE
LANE, LEWIS
LARSON, C. W.
LARSON, PETER
LINDMAN, AXEL
LINDQUIST, C.
LUFGREEN, CHARLES
LURCHWEIN, E. A.
MARKEY, FRANK
MC ELROY, JAMES
MC GEORGE, JOHN
MC SMITH, WILLIAM E.
NEYER, HENRY
NILES, LEWIS
NOBLE, A. W.
NUNEMAN, PETER
NELSON, JOHN

NELSON, SAMUEL J.
NOTTING, PETER E.
OLSON, ANDREW
OLSON, GUSTAF
PARKER, SAMUEL
PETERS, WM. F.
PETERSON, SVEN
PRICE, W. E.
RAY, RICHARD
RAMEY, EMIL
RUTTAHAN
RIC ELROY, JAMES
STEARNS, P. S.
STOCKES, JOSEPH
SWANSON, A. P.
SWANSON, M. C.
TORSEN, OLE
TORSEN, WILLIAM
WALLBURG, LEWIS

WATERBURY, LEWIS
WESTERMAN, A. P.

BATTERY "I" - 1ST ARTILLERY

SERVED DURING SIEGE ON EXTERIOR LINE, FROM ABOUT JUNE 12, 1863.
WITH 1ST DIVISION, 16TH CORPS.

1ST LIEUT. WILLIAM N. LANSING
1ST LIEUT. JOHN C. NEELY

SERGEANTS
JOS. A. MC CARTNEY
JOHN F. RUSSELL
ELMER S. RUSSELL
THOMAS F. KINNEY
STEPHEN TABY
HENRY BENNETT

CORPORALS
OLIVER F. MOON
JOHN HERSHNER
JOHN SAVAGE
M. CONN. WILLIAMS
ROBERT HECKLES
MIRAM W. RUSSELL
JULIAN HERSHNER
SEPTIMUS W. BOALER
FREDERICK O. DAY

BUGLER
JOHN LITZAU

PRIVATES
BABCOVELL, JOSEPH
BEERS, ALBERT F.
BISSON, AVANCE
BOYD, WILLIAM
BROWN, JACOB
BROWN, RUDOLPH C.
BUCK, HENRY C.
CALLAHAN, MATTHEW
CLARK, CHAS.
CRANE, WILLIAM D.
DARLING, CHAS. W.
DARLING, JOHN E.
DECKLER, JOSEPH
ELLIS, HENRY
ERPT, HARVEY
FINNEGAN, EDWARD
FLINT, MARCUS D.

FRANK, GODFRIED
FRAZER, BROCK
GETHEN, WILLIAM
GIBSON, JAMES E.
GIBSON, JOHN
GOODRICH, CHAS. F.
GOWER, HENRY
GRAVLIN, PETER
GUNDERMAN, GER.
HADLEY, GEORGE
HIGGINS, JAMES
HENRY, DAVID
HODGSON, CHAS. W.
KAFER, JACOB
KERR, JOHN R.
KUHNERICH, F. E.
KREPPLER, LEWIS
LANDRY, NAPOLEON
LATTIN, CORD

LEAMAR, NATHANIEL
LONGWELL, JAMES
LOWMILLER, CHAS. H.
MARKEY, JACKSON
MARKEY, MARSHAL
MC CARTY, THOS.
MC DONNELL, PAT.
MILLER, DAVID
MILLS, LYMAN
MORSE, HARVEY H.
MULHOLLAND, WM. P.
OLIVER, PETER
OTIS, ORA P.
PALMER, T. WILLIAM
PARENT, GEORGE
PEARSON, JOHN H.
PEIRCE, CHARLES J.
PETERS, WILLIAM
PRICE, JOSEPH

RAMSDELL, CHARLES H.
ROBINVILLE, JOSEPH
ROBINSON, CHAS.
ROSEAMY, JOHN
RYAN, JOHN
SAWYER, WILLIAM H.
SHAFER, WILLIAM
SHAW, GRANT
SHAW, JACOB
SISSOMS, RICHARD
SMITH, ANTHONY
SMITH, GEORGE
SMITH, WILLIAM
STEPHENSVILLE
STRAUCH, HENRY
STUBES, JEREMIAH
STUBES, JOHN
WALL, HENRY P.
WINTON, JEROME
WARTY, GODFREY A.

WALTERS, HENRY
WARNER, ALVIN E.
WATTON, JOHN F.
WHITTEMORE, JOHN A.
WILLIAMS, R. H.
WILSON, ALVIN
WOODS, EDWARD C.

BATTERY "A" - 2D ARTILLERY

SERVED DURING CAMPAIGN AND ON INVESTMENT LINE WITH 14TH DIVISION, 13TH CORPS.
LOSS REPORTED, KILLED 1.

CAPTAIN PETER DAVIDSON
1ST LIEUT. FRANK B. FENTON
2D LIEUT. NATHAN C. GOODNOW
2D LIEUT. RENSSELLER W. HINMAN

SERGEANTS
WILLIAM W. LUCAS
WILLIAM BAUER
WILLIAM PATTERSON
JAMES H. REDDICK
JAS. MC GINNIS

CORPORALS
SAMUEL CHANLISS
JOHN W. FRENCH
JOHN DANNER
DENTON Y. KEYS
NICHOLAS HELD

MUSICIAN
FRITZ SCHOENEMAN

WAGONER
LOUIS MARZ

PRIVATES
ALDRICH, HORACE H.
ASHWORTH, CHAS. W.
AUSTIN, JOHN W.
BAMBAUR, JOHN W.
BERNHARDT, PHILIP
BAUER, DICK
BEST, WILLIAM
BITNER, WILLIAM

BLISS, CHAS C.
BROWN, ALAY W.
BURNELBURG, JULIUS
CANNAN, JAMES
CRANDELL, WILLIAM
CAULK, JACOB H.
DEFFERDENER, C. E.
DICKINSON, C. S.
DUNN, ALBERT F.
EAGAR, SAMUEL
ELLIS, THOMAS J.
FINKLER, HENRY
FROST, ENOS
GISART, JACOB
GREENLEE, BENJAMIN
HEILMAN, WILLIAM R.
HICKMAN, EDWARD
HITTNER, DAVID W.
HOAG, EDWIN

HUNPT, LOUIS
HULL, CHARLES R.
HULL, NATHAN W.
JOHNSON, SAMUEL R.
KESSEL, CHARLES
KURTZHOLZ, CHAS.
LANGAN, FRANCIS M.
LIVINGSTONE, WM.
LUCAS, ALBERT F.
LUPTON, CHARLES
MANN, MARTIN
MATTOCK, JOHN E.
MAUPIN, ROBERT H.
MILLARD, JOSEPH
MOORE, LEWIS W.
MORRISON, WILLIAM
MORSE, ROSWELL F.
O'BRIEN, MICHAEL
OSBORN, OSCAR R.

PARKER, THOMAS
PAUL, ANDREW
PERRINE, EDWARD
PLUMER, FERDINAND
RUSSELL, DAVID E.
ROBERTSON, C. S.
RYAN, PATRICK
RYAN, SAMUEL
SCHOENEMAN, JOHN
SHAFER, SOLOMON
SCHNEIDER, RUDOLPH
SPEARS, WINFIELD
SPEARS, WILLIAM
SMITH, HENRY
STEWELL, HENRY
STRATTON, JOHN R.
STUBY, RUDOLPH

WILLIAMS, CHAS.
TERRY, CHARLES
THOMAS, CHARLES
WARREST, CHARLES
WAUCOTT, A.
WILEY, LORENZO D.
WILLIAMSON, JOHN
WOLFORT, CHRISTIAN
YATES, WILLIAM W.

BATTERY "E" - 2D ARTILLERY

SERVED DURING CAMPAIGN FROM ABOUT MAY 20, 1863, AND ON INVESTMENT LINE
WITH 4TH DIVISION, 16TH CORPS.

CAPTAIN CONRAD GUMBART
1ST LIEUT. GEORGE L. WISPEL
1ST LIEUT. EMIL STEGER

SERGEANTS
MARTIN MANN
WILLIAM S. BOWMAN
ARMAND P. BOOGER, JR.
WILLIAM MC CLURE
ISAAC B. WOODLOW

CORPORALS
CHARLES LE CLAIR
ERNST KLAGE

BUGLER
[illegible]

PRIVATES
BAUMAN, GEORGE
BLANK, JACOB
BURKHART, CASPER
FARRELL, MIKE
CHAMBERLAIN, WM.
DOTZER, GEORGE
DICKELHUS, HENRY
EBERLEIN, CHARLES
ELKENTHER, GEO.
ENGLEHOVER, JOHN
EPPELUND, STEPHEN
FELDER, LOUIS
FINK, JOHN
FISCHER, GEORGE
FLUCH, JOHN
FRANK, PHILIP
FREY, GEORGE

FREY, LOUIS
FUCH, PETER
GOTTHARD, BENITZ
HALL, WM.
HAMILTON, ALEX.
HEPLER, CHARLES
HERES, FRANK
HERMANN, GOTTLIEB
HESS, HENRY
HESS, HENRY
HOLDER, MANDRY
JACOBS, JOHN
KAUFFER, WILLIAM
KEATING, WILLIAM
KEHEY, JOHN
KOTH, FLORENCE
LANG, ROBERT
MEYER, WILLIAM
MILLER, ALBERT

MISENHIMER, PHILIP
MOLL, CHARLES
NAGEL, WILLIAM
NICHOLS, PETER
NOLAS, HENRY
OBERLIN, M.
OTT, VALENTINE
PISTER, JOHN
POWELL, [illegible]
RAPPEL, JOHN
REED, CONRAD
REED, JACOB
RUTTER, GEORGE
RUNNEY, MIKE
RUST, CHRISTIAN
SCHULTER, HENRY
SCHULTER, HENRY
SCHULTER, WM.
SCHNOER, MIKE

SEIBEL, JOHN
SHENK, CHARLES
SIEB, JACOB
SIEB, JOHN
STEPHER, ADOLPH
STILLMAN, JOHN
STRAUSS, JOHN
TEMPLE, WILLIAM
VONTRATTORF
WILSON, GEORGE
WOLF, ADOLPH
WOOD, ALONZO

BATTERY "F" - 2D ARTILLERY

SERVED DURING CAMPAIGN AND ON INVESTMENT LINE
WITH 6TH DIVISION, 17TH CORPS.

CAPTAIN JOHN W. POWELL
1ST LIEUT. JOSEPH W. MITCHELL
2D LIEUT. WALTER H. POWELL

SERGEANTS
FRED BUSBACH
LUCIUS MORSE
WILLIAM BUCHANAN
H. SCHUYLKILL

CORPORALS
JOHN M. CLULEY
ALVIN O'CONNER
ALFRED LOCKER
ROBERT W. FINLEY
SAMUEL HUGHES
JAMES CHILDS
EDWIN C. COATS

MUSICIAN
CHARLES D. MORRIS

WAGONER
[illegible]

PRIVATES
ANDERSON, JOHN J.
ARMBRUST, HENRY
ARNOLD, COLUMBUS
AWATER, JOHN
BAKER, DANIEL
BALDWIN, JOHN W.
BECK, FRANCIS
BENNETTNER, C.
BUCK, AUGUST
BUCK, CHARLES
BUCK, FREDERICK
BUCKS, JOHN F.
BURRIS, LEONARD F.
BURNS, HENRY
BYERS, THEODORE
CAMPBELL, JOHN
CARROLL, CHARLES
CHLIMY, GEORGE
CLARK, JOHN
COATS, JOHN
CONWAY, PATRICK
CRISTY, [illegible]

DEASON, ARCHLES
DORAVAN, JOHN
FRANK, LEVI C.
FREDERICKS, HERMAN
FRITZ, DANIEL
GAINES, WILLIAM H.
GERHARDT, JOHN
GRAY, [illegible]
HASTELTER, [illegible]
HAUHUT, JOHN
HARRISON, JOHN A.
HARVEY, THOMAS E.
HAWKINS, WILLIAM
HENDERSON, BENJ.
HOLEMAN, NICHOLAS
HOCKETMAN, C.
JOHNSON, JAMES
JOHNSON, ROBERT
JOHNSON, AUGUST
KINKEAD, WILLIAM H.
KUHLEN, JOHN H.
KUHLMAN, [illegible]
KUHLMAN, [illegible]

KRUMEN, GOTTLIEB
LACKEY, NATHAN W.
LANG, WILLIAM
LEONARD, GOTTLIEB
LEYMANER, HERMAN
LONG, BENJAMIN B.
MACKENZIE, WILLIAM
MALEY, WILLIAM
MARKHARDT, WILLIAM
MC CRACKEN, JAMES
MC CARTY, MICHAEL
MC EASTERN, FRANCIS
MC PHERSON, JOHN
MILLER, HENRY
MILLER, HENRY
MILLER, HENRY
MILLER, EDWIN H.
OELSCHLAMER, HENRY
OLDHOUSE, JOHN
OSMAN, JOHN
PATTERSON, DANIEL
PEARSON, MATTHEW C.
PENN, LYDELL

PETERSLING, JOHN J.
PETERSON, CHAS.
PLATT, FREDERICK, SEC.
PUTT, FREDERICK, SEC.
RASSMUSSEN, PETER
RICHARDS, LEONARD E.
RAMSBURY, CHARLES
RAMSBURY, JOHN
REASTER, FRANCIS
RIGGS, JOHN
RILEY, HENRY
RILEY, JOHN
RANEY, HENRY
SAALER, EBERHARD
SAMPLE, [illegible]
SCHAFER, [illegible]
SCHULTE, JACOB
SCHULTE, CHRISTIAN
SCHULL, SAMUEL
SCHULL, [illegible]
SMITH, PHILIP
SMITH, RUDOLPH
SMITH, ALFRED

SMITH, CHARLES F.
SPLEGEL, CHRISTIAN
WATTON, JOHN F.
WHITTEMORE, JOHN A.
WILLIAMS, R. H.
WILSON, ALVIN
WOODS, EDWARD C.

WALLACE, WILLIAM
WOOD, WASHINGTON
WOOD, [illegible]
WILEY, SAMUEL
WILEY, D. J.

Tablet in Illinois State Memorial Temple, Vicksburg National Military Park

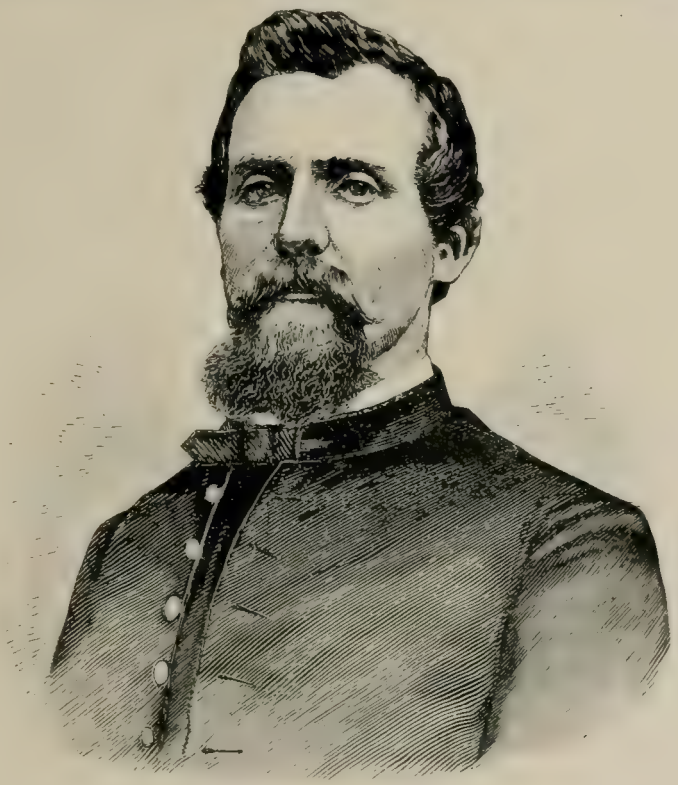
master of General Hurlbut's division, encamped four miles distant. Apparently doubtful of his ability to attend to his complex duties, he resigned his commission Feb. 22nd, to take a position in another department of the army. But before his transfer he had the misfortune of being captured by the Confederates.

Like many other officers, Silfversparre engaged in a little private speculation. While out in the country alone one day buying up cotton, which at that time brought high prices, he encountered a band of bushwhackers and was taken prisoner after killing one of his antagonists. He was threatened with hanging, when a squad of cavalry interfered and carried him off to Jackson, Miss. There he was granted an interview with Gen. Joseph E. Johnston, who sent him to the Libby prison at Richmond, with other prisoners of war. After having endured inhuman treatment there for ten months he made good his escape by bribing a guard, whose uniform he donned and, after having secured a pass at the military headquarters, went south to Wilmington, S. C. There he engaged as engineer on the blockade runner Cornubia, which was chased by Union vessels the better part of the way to the Bermudas. Such was the closing episode in Capt. Silfversparre's military career.

Death of Sergeant Wyman

Capt. Levi W. Hart, who succeeded to the command of the Silfversparre battery, was followed by Francis De Gress, from Cape Girardeau, Mo., the oldest second lieutenant, who was promoted to the chief command of the battery Dec. 25th of the same year. Under him the battery took active part in all the engagements of the second division of the 15th Army Corps and was one of its working batteries at Vicksburg, Mission Ridge and Atlanta. The battery especially distinguished itself for brilliant work at the taking of the latter city July 21-22, 1864, but lost in that engagement Sergeant Peter S. Wyman, one of its most efficient men. The batteries of the brigade were posted in a semi-circle, De Gress' battery holding one of the flanks. The unionists were confronted by a force of rebels five times their own number, which made an irresistible charge. The brigade commander therefore ordered a retreat, and all but Capt. De Gress and Sergeant Wyman fell back. The two stuck to the guns to give the rebels a few parting shots. This done, De Gress turned and ran, but Wyman, not yet satisfied, reloaded for a final warm farewell. Then he spiked the gun and sought safety in flight, but fell the next instant, pierced by three musket balls. The battery, captured by the enemy, was soon retaken, and its guns again pointed at the Confederates, who now made reverse tracks faster than they had stormed forward just before.

Under the command of De Gress, Battery H, henceforth known as De Gress' Battery, added to its laurels and became a very famous one in Gen. Sherman's command. From Atlanta, it participated in the march to the sea, and finally marched in review before the President at Washington and was mustered out at Springfield June 14, 1865. The surviving members of the battery are said to have been a unit in praise of Silfversparre as a commander as brave as any and a tactician of



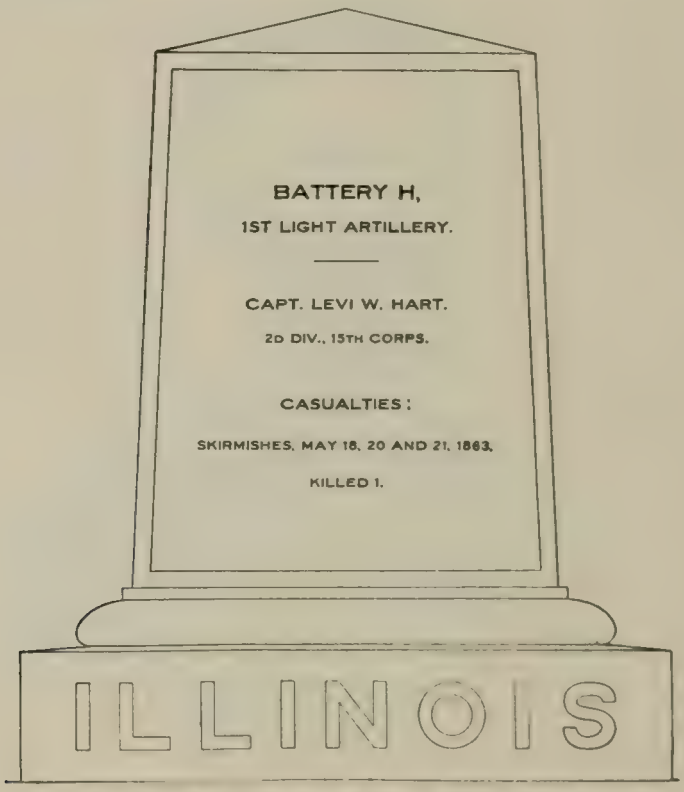
Sergeant Peter S. Wyman

more than average skill, but they were of the opinion that his ironclad Swedish discipline was impracticable in a citizen army of volunteers.

Peter S. Wyman (Yman), who died a hero's death before Atlanta, was born at Ysanna, Blekinge, Sweden, in 1836, and emigrated in 1854, locating in Galesburg, where he was working as a blacksmith, when the war broke out. When on his recruiting tour Silfversparre reached Galesburg, Wyman was one of the first to apply. Enlisting as a private, he soon became sergeant. Had he lived one day longer, he would have been promoted, his appointment to a lieutenancy having reached his chief the very same day that Wyman lost his life. Capable, brave, patriotic, Wyman had the making of a good artillery officer, and his

comrades in arms looked for him to rise to high rank in the service. His remains rest in an unmarked spot on the battlefield where he fell.

In the battle of Atlanta Peter Larson, Gustaf Ahlstrand and S. A. Lundgren fell into the enemy's hands. What became of the two last named is not recorded, but Larson had to spend several months amid the horrors of Andersonville prison, before he was transferred to more tolerable quarters.



Monument at Vicksburg National Military Park

Peter B. Larson of Silfversparre's Battery, who was mustered out as corporal, located in Chicago after the war and as general agent of the National Line, became extensively known among his fellow countrymen. He was born at Axeltorp, Skane, Sweden, March 31, 1843, and came along with his parents to this country in 1854. The family located in Galesburg, where Peter Larson enlisted. He was captured at Atlanta and was a prisoner at Andersonville, Charleston and Florence until the close of the war. Upon his return home he took a four years' course of study at the Illinois Soldiers' College at Fulton, prior to engaging in the steamship ticket business. He died about April, 1881.

From Atlanta the battery was ordered to Savannah, participating in the capture of Fort McAllister, and thence to Columbia, which was destroyed by fire supposed to have been started by a random shot fired by this battery. At Bentonville Battery H had its last fight.

While the battery lay at Savannah the term of enlistment expired and all but eight men of the battery re-enlisted. The eight took the steamer General Lyon for New York, but never reached home, the vessel being burned at sea March 31, 1865. All on board perished, including Charles Beckman and John Johanson of Chicago, Peter Olson Hult of St. Charles and Peter Munson of Knoxville.

About the time of re-enlistment, battery H was given a brief furlough. Its Swedish members then went home to Illinois in a body and were accorded a public reception in Chicago, and presented with a handsome parade flag, emblazoned with the names of the three great victories—Shiloh, Vicksburg, Atlanta.

Silfversparre's Civil Career

From the Bermudas Silfversparre betook himself to New York and there met Col. W. W. Adams, who promised to make him his assistant in the construction of the Union Pacific railway projected by Gen. Fremont and of which Adams was to have been chief engineer. When the project failed, owing to the murder of Fremont's chief financial backer, Adams and Silfversparre collaborated on plans for a suspension bridge across East River, which plans were afterwards used by the war department and the New York legislature in planning the Brooklyn bridge.

Toward the close of 1864 Silfversparre was engaged as engineer of the Quincy copper mine in Michigan. In 1865 he became assistant city engineer of Chicago, a place retained for several years. In the great fire he lost his home and everything he owned, including a number of instruments. The year following he helped to draw the new city plans. He was nominated on the police board that year, but failed of election, and also suffered defeat as a candidate for county surveyor in 1876. Having left the city engineer's office, he was engaged in preparing a commercial atlas of Illinois in 1877 and during part of the next two years worked under Gen. McDowell, who superintended the construction of the federal building in Chicago.

Going to Colorado in 1880, Capt. Silfversparre drew plans for the city of Denver that year, and the next made the survey for the Denver and Rio Grande railway over the Rockies to the Utah border. A map of the state of Colorado, with a supplement covering the mining districts, was worked out by him in 1882 and printed in Chicago under his supervision the following year. A map of the city of Washington

was next undertaken, but the work being interrupted, he secured a position in 1886 as draftsman in the Department of Agriculture. The next year the map of the capital city was completed and published.

Owing to failing strength, Capt. Silfversparre in 1888 sought admittance to the soldiers' home at Hampton, Va., where the veteran spent eight years, being subsequently transferred to the home at Dayton, O., where he was chosen commandant in 1897. Having been pensioned, he made a trip to Sweden in 1898. After his return he was engaged in Chicago on a large wall map of Sweden, drawn according to the latest maps issued by the Swedish general staff.

Again laying down the draftsman's pen, he entered the soldiers' home at Danville, Ill., where he passed away March 2, 1906, and was buried with military honors. Capt. Axel Silfversparre was married in 1866 to Mary Jane Gunning of Chicago. Their union was dissolved in 1884. Of their three children, Servais Zacharias Silfversparre, a lawyer, is the publisher of a mining journal, "Ores and Metals," at Denver.

Roster of Battery H, First Illinois Artillery

With the exception of the officers, only Swedish names are given

Name and Rank	Residence	Date of rank or enlistment	Remarks
Captains			
Axel Silfversparre	Springfield.	Dec. 25, '61	Resigned Feb. 22, '63
Levi W. Hart	Chicago	Feb. 22, '63	Discharged Dec. 25, '63
Francis DeGress	C.GirardeauMo.	Dec. 25, '63	Pro. by President Brevet Major, Mar. 13, '65, M. O. June 14, '65
First Lieutenants			
Lewis B. Mitchell	Chicago.	Feb. 1, '62	Resigned April 14, '65
George G. Knox	"	March 6, '62	Discharged Nov. 1, '62
Robert S. Gray.	Erie, Penn.	Dec. 25, '63	Promoted Senior 1st Lieuten't
Robert S. Gray	"	June 12, '65	Mustered out June 14, '65.
Second Lieutenants			
Francis DeGress	C.Girardeau,Mo	Jan. 1, '62	Promoted Captain
Edward Adams.	Springfield	Feb. 1, '62	Killed July 10, '63
Lewis Larson	Knoxville	June 13, '65	Mustered out June 14, '65
Henry Meyers.	C.GirardeauMo	"	M. O. June 14, '65 as Sergeant
First Sergeant			
John R. Scupham	Chicago	Feb. 5, '62	Re-enlisted as Veteran
Sergeants			
William E. Merritt	Chicago	Jan. 28, '62	Private. Drowned at sea by burning of steamer Gen'l Lyon, March 31, '65
John A. Anderson	"	Jan. 6, '62	Re-enlisted as Veteran
Lewis Larson	Knoxville	Jan. 27, '62	" "
Henry O. Olson	Chicago	Feb. 12, '62	" "
Peter Olson	Rockford	Jan 13, '62	" "
Daniel E. Steward	Chicago	Feb 20, '62	Discharged Dec 14, '62, as private; disability

Name and Rank	Residence	Date of rank or enlistment	Remarks
Privates			
Abrahamson John..	Rockford.....	Feb. 25, '62	Dis. Oct. 7, '62; disability.. .
Anderson Andrew..	Andover.....	"	Dis. Sept. 14, '62; disability...
Anderson Peter.....	Galesburg	Jan. 15, '62	Died, Pittsburg Ldg. May 9, '62
Anderson John A...	Moline.....	Jan. 29, '62	Re-enlisted as Veteran.....
Alstrand Gustav....	Andover.....	Jan. 28, '62	" "
Anderson Thomas..	Chemung.....	Jan. 28, '62	Died, Memphis, Aug. 21, '62..
Anderson Anders E.	Chicago	Feb. 21, '62	Disch. Oct. 24, '62; disability.
Buckland John J....	Rockford.....	Jan. 15, '62	Re-enlisted as Veteran.....
Beckman Charles...	Chicago	Feb. 24, '62	Drowned at sea by burning of the steamer General Lyon, March 31, '65.....
Charleson N. Peter.	Rock Island...	Feb. 25, '62	Re-enlisted as Veteran.....
Charleson Aaron ...	Andover.....	Jan. 28, '62	" "
Erickson Sven.....	Knoxville.....	Feb. 26, '65	Died at Memphis, Sept. 19, '62.
Godee Seth.....	Galena	March 2, '62	Deserted.....
Hultgreen N John	Andover.....	Jan. 28, '62	Disch. Oct. 20, '62; disability.
Hult Peter Olson...	St. Charles....	Feb. 5, '62	Drowned at sea by burning of the steamer General Lyon, March 31, '65.....
Hagerstrom John C.	Chicago	Feb. 4, '62	Re enlisted as Veteran.....
Högberg Olof.....	"	Feb. 28, '62	Disch. June 19, '63; disability.
Johannson John....	"	Feb. 24, '62	Drowned at sea by burning of the steamer General Lyon, March 31, '65.....
Johnson Johannes..	.....	Feb. 24, '62	.....
Johann August.....	Chicago	Feb. 22, '62	.....
Johnson John A....	Rockford.....	Jan. 13, '62	Deserted.....
Johnson Carl Peter.	Moline	Jan. 31, '62	Died near Corinth, May 17, '62
Johnson C. Julius..	Chicago	Jan. 20, '62	Re-enlisted as Veteran.....
Johnson August....	.....	Jan. 22, '62	" "
Johnson Axel.....	Chicago	Jan. 23, '62	" "
Johnson Andrew J..	"	Jan. 26, '62	" "
Larson Peter.....	Galesburg	Jan. 27, '62	" "
Larson Ch W.....	Andover.....	"	" "
Lindman Axel.....	Moline	Jan. 30, '62	" "
Landström John....	Knoxville.....	Feb. 26, '62	Deserted.....
Löfgren Charles....	Andover.....	Feb. 25, '62	Re-enlisted as Veteran.....
Lundgren S. A.....	"	"	" "
Lindquist C.....	"	"	Died, Vicksburg, Nov. 20, '63.
Munson Peter.....	Knoxville	Feb. 19, '62	Drowned at sea by burning of the steamer General Lyon, March 31, '65.....
Nelson August.....	Rock Island...	Feb. 25, '62	Deserted.....
Nelson John.....	Galesburg	Feb. 25, '62	Re-enlisted as Veteran.....
Nero Samuel John..	Geneva.....	March 4, '62	" "
Olson Abraham....	Andover.....	Jan. 27, '62	" "
Oberg Peter Alfred.	Rockford.....	Jan. 15, '62	" "
Olson Gustaf.....	Chicago	March 2, '62	" "
Peters John.....	Rockford.....	Feb. 25, '62	" "
Peterson Sven.....	Chicago	Jan. 26, '62	" "
Swanson S. M.....	Andover.....	Jan. 28, '62	Died, Andover, Ill., Sept. 17, '63
Swanson Nels P....	"	"	Re-enlisted as Veteran.....
Stark Peter.....	Chicago	March 2, '62	" "
Winlöf N.....	"	Jan. 28, '62	Died, Memphis, Nov. 19, '62..
Wyman Peter S....	Galesburg	Feb. 26, '62	Re-enltsted as Veteran.....
Westerland E A....	Andover.....	Jan. 28, '62	Died at Camp Sherman, Miss., Sept. 4, '63.....
Wahlborg Louis....	Rockford.....	Jan. 15, '62	Re-enlisted as Veteran.....
Veterans Mustered out June 14, 1865, except as noted.			
Anderson John A...	Chicago	Feb. 27, '64	Disch. Jan. 4, '65; disability..

Name and Rank	Residence	Date of rank or enlistment	Remarks
Veterans			
Anderson John A...	Chicago.....	Feb. 27, '64	M. O. June 14, '65, as Corporal
Alstrand Gustaf ...	"	"	
Buckland John J...	"	March 6, '64	M. O. June 14 '65, as Corporal
Benson Henk.....	"	"	" "
Charleson Aaron...	"	Feb. 27, '64	" "
Charleson N. Peter.	Rock Island...	"	Died in the field, Ga., Oct. 4, '64
Hagerström John C.	Chicago	Feb. 27, '64	Died, Chattanooga, Nov. 15, '64
Johnson C. Julius..	"	"	
Johnson August....	"	"	
Johnson Andrew J.	"	"	
Johnson Axel.....	"	"	Abs't, wounded, at M. O. of Bat.
Larson Peter.....	"	"	M. O. June 14, '65, as Corpor'l
Larson Louis.....	Knoxville.....	"	" " as Sergeant
			" " as Co. Q.
			M. Serg't. Com. 2d Lieut.,
Larson Charles N..	"	"	but not mustered
Lindman Axel.....	"	"	
Löfgren Charles....	Andover.....	"	
Lemgren John A...	Chicago	"	
Nero Samuel J.....	"	March 6, '64	
Nelson John.....	"	Feb. 27, '64	
Olson Abraham...	"	"	
Olson H. Olof.....	"	"	Disch. March 24, '65; disability
Oberg Peter Alfred.	Rockford.....	"	
Olson Peter.....	Chicago	"	
Olson Gustaf.....	"	March 6, '64	M. O. June 14, '65, as Sergeant.
Peters John.....	"	Feb. 27, '64	
Peterson Sven.....	"	"	
Stark Peter.....	"	March 6, '64	
Swanson Nels P....	"	Feb. 27, '64	Corp'l. Died in Ala. June 7, '64
Wahlborg Louis....	"	"	M. O. June 14, '62, as Sergeant.
Wyman Peter S....	"	"	Serg't Killed in battle July 22, '64
Recruits			
Anderson John.....	Chicago	March 30, '65	
Anderson Henry....	Rockford.....	March 4, '62	Deserted April 6, '62
Anderson N J.....	Chicago	March 2, '62	
Danielson August..	"	April 21, '64	
Godee Seth	"	Aug. 11, '64	M. O. June 14, '65, as Corporal
Johnson Samuel....	"	March 30, '64	
Johnson Sven J.....	Galesburg . .	Feb 1, '62	Deserted. . .
Lindwall August...	Rockford.....	March 5, '62	" " .
Lindwall Lewis.....	Andover.....	March 2, '62	" " . . . .
Nelson Peter.....	Geneva.....	March 4, '62	" April 6, '62.
Olson John. . . .	Chicago	March 30, '62	
Olson Nils.....	"	March 6, '62	
Okerson William...	"	March 30, '64	
Peterson John G...	"	"	
Pearson Olof.....	Rockford.....	March 5, '62	Deserted.
Svenson Sven.....	Chicogo	March 30, '64	Disch. Oct. 20, '62; disability..
Sword Andrew.....	"	April 22, '64	Absent, sick, at M. O. of Batt'y
Trägardh Lewis	"	March 30, '64	Mustered out July 3, '65.

Captain Carl Arosenius

Carl Arosenius, whose antecedents we have been unable to trace, was a resident of Galesburg. In 1859 he became editor of "Frihets-vännen," a Swedish newspaper of Baptist tendencies, and appears to have been in charge of the paper until it ceased publication after a

year. Arosenius was a college bred man from Sweden and has been credited with considerable ability as a writer. He had laid down the pen some time before taking up the sword in defense of the Union cause. On July 17, 1861, he enlisted and was mustered in as corporal of Co. A, in a regiment recruited in Missouri, and afterwards credited to Illinois as the 59th. Arosenius was promoted quartermaster sergeant Dec. 1st that year, serving as such until the following autumn, when, on Oct. 9th, at Bolivar, Tenn., he was transferred to the 43rd regiment and made captain of Co. C., to succeed Capt. Edvall, who had died of wounds received in the battle of Shiloh. At the end of his three-year term, he re-enlisted, as did almost all the members of Co. C., and remained in command of the company, which was known as Co. A., after consolidation of the 43rd regiment, until mustered out on Nov. 30, 1865. His war record is a part of the history of the company he so gallantly led. After the war Capt. Arosenius is known to have joined in establishing the Swedish weekly "Svenska Amerikanaren" of Chicago, in 1866, and he is said to have aspired to the editorial position with that paper which was tendered to Col. Mattson of Minnesota. The subsequent career of Arosenius we are unable to trace for want of data. He is said to have died in Chicago not many years after the close of the war.

Lieutenant John H. Ekstrand

One of those Swedish-American veterans, whose names deserve to grace the roll of honor for gallant service, was Lieutenant John H. Ekstrand. He was born Dec. 24, 1828, in Göteborg, Sweden, and there obtained a college education, then taught public school until he enlisted in the Göta Artillery, where he was promoted sergeant. He went to sea in 1851, was for a time in England, then shipped for Egypt and had a siege of severe illness at Alexandria. Returning to Liverpool, he shipped for the United States and came to New York early in 1854. At Buffalo he met Capt. C. M. Lindgren and sailed on one of his schooners that summer. After two years of errant existence he came to Chicago in 1856. Here he fell bravely to studying the English language, was soon married to a widowed lady, Katarina Johnson, whereupon the pair settled on a small farm at Beaver, Ill. There Ekstrand served as school teacher for two years. One Christmas morning he heard a stirring sermon by a Methodist preacher, which effected his conversion. In his spiritual exaltation he began preaching the same day and was soon duly licensed as a preacher of the Swedish Methodist Church. On Sept. 20th, 1861, Ekstrand enlisted for volunteer service as a private in the 51st Ill. Vol. Inf. regiment. At the muster-in Dec. 24, 1861, he was made sergeant of Co. C., and was detailed to service

as orderly. He was with the regiment in the thick of the fight at Stone River, and after the battle of Mission Ridge, Nov. 24, 1863, Ekstrand's gallantry and military capacity were brought to the attention of his superiors. Upon Sherman's recommendation, Grant promoted him to second lieutenant in the 13th regiment of the regular army. In the battle of Franklin, Tenn., Nov. 30, 1864, he received an ugly wound in the leg, necessitating the amputation of the limb and compelling his retirement from the service. He resigned after having bravely served the Union for three years and three months. The mutilated veteran



Lieutenant John H Ekstrand

re-entered the service of the church militant as a Methodist preacher, and during the next fifteen years served the Swedish churches in Leland, Victoria, Andover, Geneseo and Beaver. In 1879 he was retired, being declared superannuated when but fifty-one years old.

In the year 1890, or prior, he removed to Seattle, Wash., where he attained some consequence as a politician. Being a maimed veteran, he had little difficulty in securing fairly lucrative positions. He was alternately clerk of court, under Judge Ashburn, private secretary to Mayor

Phelps and held a position in the county clerk's office. Ekstrand passed away April 11, 1902, leaving a widow tolerably well provided for.

Even late in life Ekstrand, although an invalid, was an exceptionally agile man, and still bore the stamp of the rough and ready fighter, with no traces of the meek and sanctimonious divine. His gifts as a public speaker, which were not small, he devoted in his latter years to the cause of politics. He entered with great zest into the American Protective Association movement while that was at its height. He was an extreme and uncompromising Republican, and is said to have expressed a desire to forego the eternal bliss of heaven, should a single Democrat be admitted to that sacred realm.

Officers and Men of Various Regiments

Adjutant John E. Youngberg, who was of a pioneer Swedish family of Galesburg and Galva, enlisted in Co. H., 57th Ill., Oct. 2, 1861, and was mustered into the service on Dec. 26th. He was promoted sergeant-major Dec. 27, 1863, and mustered as such Jan. 17, 1864. On Dec. 30th of the same year he was promoted adjutant and served in that capacity until mustered out July 7, 1865.

Capt. Herman Lund enlisted as a private in Co. H, 16th Ill., from St. Joseph, Mo., on May 24, 1861; was promoted second lieutenant June 28th, 1862, and given a captain's commission Aug. 2nd the same year. His subsequent promotion to major of the regiment did not go into effect because he was not mustered in. On July 8, 1865, he was mustered out as captain of Co. H.

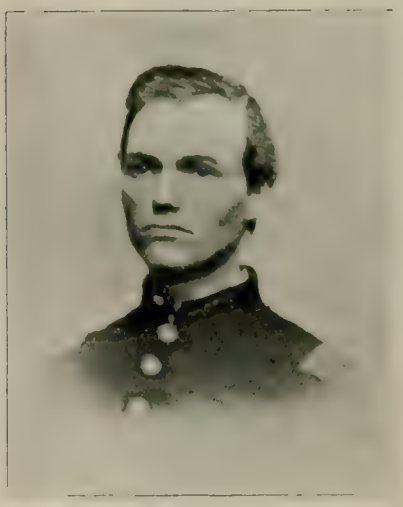
Lieutenant John Lindroth of Co. G., 43rd Ill., was killed in the first day's battle of Shiloh, April 6th, 1862. He enlisted Sept. 1, 1861, and was made 2nd lieutenant at the organization and muster-in of the regiment the following 16th day of December.

Capt. Axel F. Eckstrom, who commanded Co. G. of the 65th Ill. for two years, enlisted as a resident of Cook county. He held the rank of 1st lieutenant from Nov. 1, 1862, until May 31st the following year, when he succeeded to the captaincy to fill a vacancy caused by resignation. He was mustered out April 25, 1865.

Capt. Jonas F. Lempke began earning his shoulder-straps as a private in Battery B., First Ill. Artillery, which was organized in April, 1861, and mustered in July 16th. With this battery, which began its career at Belmont, going into the fight with six guns and coming out with eight after demolishing the balance of the enemy's battery, and did excellent work throughout the campaign. Lempke served until Nov. 30, 1863, when he was discharged as corporal for promotion. He afterwards attained the rank of captain.

Col. Steelhammar, mentioned in Mattson's memoirs, appears to have entered the service in Illinois, though he is not shown to have attained that rank in the rosters of this state. One Charles Stillhammer of McLean county enlisted July 25, 1861, as a private in Co. K, of the Eight Ill. Inf., and re-enlisted as a veteran. He was promoted 2nd lieutenant Nov. 25, 1864, or, according to another statement, 1st lieutenant from corporal. The adjutant-general's report of Illinois gives no further record of promotion.

Lieut. Nels Nelson of Galesburg served in the ranks of Co. C, of the 43rd Ill. Inf. until at the expiration of three years the regiment was



Lieutenant Nels Nelson



Corporal Peter Larson

consolidated, when he was promoted to the rank of 1st lieutenant of the company, now Co. A., dating from March 3, 1865. He was mustered out of the service Nov. 30, 1865. He was for many years a merchant and subsequently managed the head office of a mutual life association, as told elsewhere in a biographical sketch.

Private John J. Engberg, of a family well-known to the first generation of Swedish settlers in the West, enlisted before attaining military age. On his way to the recruiting office he chanced to cross Kinzie street bridge, which had just been closed by the tender, Charles Lindholm, an acquaintance from Minnesota. "Where are you bound for, John?" said he. "To the recruiting office, to enlist." Lindholm threw down the turning bar saying: "Wait till I get my coat, and I am with you." Before that night, Nov. 12, 1863, the two were mustered in Co. D, Eighty-ninth Illinois Infantry, popularly called "the Railroad Regiment" because it was originally made up of railroad men.

After drilling two months at the instruction camp at Springfield, Engberg was sent to his regiment, then stationed at Chattanooga, preparatory to taking part in General Sherman's famous "March to the Sea." Engberg fought in the battles of Rocky Face, Resaca, Pickett's Mills, Kenesaw Mountain, and Peach Tree Creek. The latter engagement took place July 20, 1864, near Atlanta.

Having become sick, he was sent to the hospital in Chattanooga and later to Nashville. He was transferred to the Fifty-ninth Illinois Infantry and shortly after, about Dec. 1st, was transferred to Co. A,



Private John Engberg

Veteran Reserve Corps at Chicago, where he guarded Confederate prisoners at Camp Douglas until the close of the war.

Among the score or so of Swedes in the 55th regiment was Oliver Erickson, first lieutenant of Co. E, who died a hero's death before Atlanta in August, 1864. He was a gallant officer who had won promotion from the ranks, having entered the service as a corporal in Co. A. He was struck by three or more bullets, while at the head of his company, and died where he fell.

Lieutenant Jonas Eckdall enlisted from Macomb, Ill., on Dec. 1, 1861, and was mustered in with Battery H, Second Light Artillery, on

the 31st of the same month. The next day he was promoted sergeant and on Aug. 21, 1862, became senior second lieutenant. He attained the rank of senior first lieutenant in the battery on May 25, 1863, and was mustered out July 29, 1865.

Swedes in the Spanish-American War

When in more recent years the Spanish-American War stirred the patriotic sentiment of our country, the Swedish-Americans gave prompt response to the call to arms. In the ten regiments of land troops furnished by this state there were more than four hundred men of Swedish extraction. Those in the naval reserves of Chicago and Moline brought the number safely beyond five hundred, making them about one-twentieth of the forces mustered into service. The great battles of the war being fought at sea, deciding the outcome of the conflict in a very short time, the volunteers did little or no fighting. These troops consisted largely of the National Guards, whose men, trained and disciplined as they were, needed but an opportunity to make the same distinguished record as the defenders of the Union thirty-five years before.

The greatest percentage of Swedes was found in the first and second regiments, from Chicago, in the third, where they were numerous in the Rockford companies, H and K, and others, and in the sixth, where the Swedes of Galesburg figured prominently in Companies C and D, and those of Moline in Co. F. A canvass of the names gives the following result:

Regt.	No. Swedes	Regt.	No. Swedes
1 Infantry	53	7 Infantry	9
2 "	78	8 "	12
3 "	104	9 "	3
4 "	6	1 Cavalry	37
5 "	22	1 Artillery, Battery A	9
6 "	95		
	Total		428

While war was imminent and before the actual outbreak, Carl A. W. Liljenstolpe of Chicago planned to organize an entire regiment of Swedish-Americans. Aided by Axel af Jocknick, another Swedish Chicagoan, he set about recruiting and on May 1, 1898, within ten days after war was declared, he was reported to have four hundred men enrolled. The recruiting continued for a number of weeks, and in July the regiment, which was named "The Blue and Gray Legion,"

had its officers appointed, including Liljenstolpe as lieutenant colonel and Jocknick and M. Theodore Mattson as majors of battalions. The son of a major in the Swedish army, Liljenstolpe entered the Karlberg



Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Carl A. W. Liljenstolpe

military academy at the age of thirteen; became instructor in gymnastics and fencing; was graduated at twenty-two, as lieutenant; was offered a place as instructor in gymnastics in the Russian army, which he declined; served as lieutenant in the Kalmar regiment until 1882, when he resigned to devote himself to the care of his estate, Östrabo,

in Smaland, and in 1894 came to this country engaging in the practice of medical gymnastics and massage, a vocation he still pursues.

By short, sharp and decisive action, the American navy put a sudden end to the war, and the Swedish-American regiment of Illinois was one of many volunteer organizations who never were called into service. It appears, therefore, that no less than 1,500 Swedes had enlisted in this state, up to the time of the naval engagement at Santiago, which deprived two-thirds of them of the privilege of taking the field. But in the fact that among those who actually entered military service in Illinois in the year 1898 one out of every twenty men was a Swede, while that nationality constituted little more than one-twentieth of the state population, the former record of the Swedish-Americans for loyalty and patriotism seems, nevertheless, well sustained.



CHAPTER XII

Music and Musicians

Music in the Early Days

SWEDISH song on American soil dates from the arrival of the first Swedish immigrants who upon landing raised their voices in praise and thanksgiving to God for safe guidance across perilous seas. Strangers in a foreign land, they found their first comfort and cheer in the sacred hymns dear to them from childhood. Also for some length of time after settlement, their musical utterances were chiefly of a devotional character. But there were occasions even in hard pioneer times when the joy of life or recollections of the home land prompted the singing of merry folksongs or patriotic airs. The first harvest festival at Bishop Hill in 1847 and the visit of Fredrika Bremer to Pine Lake in 1850 are instances in point. We have noted that L. P. Esbjörn, the pioneer preacher, who had a musical education, early began drilling his congregations so as to improve their singing, which, even at its best, was not of a high order. Another musical pioneer was Jonas Engberg, who in 1855 formed and conducted a small Swedish choir in Galesburg, probably the first of its kind in this state, and during the winter of 1856-7 led the singing and conducted choral practice in the church at Vasa, Minn. About that time the first musical instruments were introduced in the Swedish churches. A primitive affair with one string, known as a psalmodikon or monochord, played with a bow, was used in 1853 in the Immanuel Church of Chicago. This was superseded in 1856 by a melodeon. An instrument of the latter kind was procured for the Moline Lutheran church in 1858. The Vasa, Minn., church bought a psalmodikon in 1859, the same being replaced the following year by a melodeon. Among the people at large, there were musical amateurs who loved the characteristic folksongs, ballads and romances of Sweden and sang them in their immediate circles, and probably some self-taught fiddler might be found to time

the old-country dance at neighborhood gatherings. Most of the newcomers, however, were sternly religious folk, who disapproved of pleasures of a worldly sort, and in consequence secular music among Swedish-Americans is, on the whole, of a much later date. At the present day, when no Swedish home is considered well equipped without some musical instrument, and music is the art cultivated by Swedish-Americans with predilection, in all branches and to every degree of perfection, it is interesting to recall that it was from the very first a cultural factor among these people.

The Immanuel Church Choir

With the exception of the choir named Svenska Sangföreningen, which existed in August and September, 1855, in Galesburg, during the short sojourn of Jonas Engberg in that place, the Immanuel Church Choir of Chicago has the distinction of having been the first Swedish church choir in Illinois. It was formed at the instance of Jonas Engberg, who was organist 1863-67. The choir was the first Swedish-American chorus to sing a cantata. The work chosen, George F. Root's "Queen Esther," was sung at the opening of Augustana College at Paxton in the fall of 1863. The performers were Jonas Engberg, Emma Peterson, Anna Carlsson, Tilda Swedman, Hannah Carlson, John J. Engberg, L. E. Lindberg, and P. Lindberg. "Queen Esther" was later repeated at Chicago. Trips were made to the church conventions at Geneseo and Moline. Jonas Engberg was so interested in his choir that he provided it with music at his own expense. Among later choir leaders were Lars E. Lindberg, 1867, Joseph Osborn, 1869, K. Sandquist, 1870-74, J. F. Ring, 1874-79. In 1883 the choir was reorganized by Mrs. Emmy Evald, who drilled the augmented choir of about one hundred voices for a jubilee concert. This choir, together with the choirs of Salem Church and Gethsemane Church sang some Messiah choruses and several of Wennerberg's "Psalms of David" at the Luther Jubilee concert, Nov. 10, 1883, at Central Music Hall. Joseph Osborn was the director and the accompaniments were played by the Augustana Orchestra with Clarence Eddy at the organ. The choruses sung were "And the glory of the Lord," "Behold the Lamb of God," "Psalm XXIV," "Psalm LXXXIV," "Psalm XCVI," "Psalm CXXXVII" and "Psalm CL." Mr. Osborn and the orchestra had just assisted in similar celebrations Nov. 7th and 8th at Augustana College. C. Levinsen and Mrs. Ella Carlson were the soloists. The latter was one of the few excellent Swedish sopranos of that time. In 1889-90 she was soprano soloist of the Immanuel Church Choir. She is now soprano soloist of the Ravenswood M. E. Church Choir.

Victor J. Tengwald served as director from 1886-88 and was



The Immanuel Church Choir, 1896

followed by John L. Swenson, 1888-90. It was in 1889 that the choir sang Gaul's "The Holy City." The choir was brought to a high state of efficiency under Swenson's term and that of his successor, Samuel E. Carlsson, 1891-98. The latter had been trained under Dr. Stolpe, was highly musical, and prepared many artistic programs from time to time. On Nov. 14, 1894, the choral numbers were Farmer's "Gloria in Excelsis," Rossini's "Inflammatus" and Gounod's "Unfold, ye Portals." The choir sang on Jan. 22, 1896, Woodward's "The Radiant Morn Hath Passed Away," and Gounod's "By Babylon's Wave," with splendid effect. Mr. Carlsson organized during his incumbency an orchestra of twelve members which played both sacred and secular music. It existed about a year.

During the first eight months of 1897 Martin J. Engberg acted as director. The choir sang Gaul's "Ruth" on April 21, 1897. In the fall of 1898 William Dahlén became director, serving until 1907. During this period several cantatas have been sung, viz., Stainer's "Daughter of Jairus," Nov. 19, 1902, an abridged version of Gaul's "The Holy City," Nov. 3, 1903, Gaul's "The Ten Virgins," April 23, 1904, besides two revivals of Gaul's "Ruth."

Alfred Holmes, the organist, succeeded Dahlén in January, 1907. Some months later he directed a third revival of Gaul's "Ruth," with accompaniments by an orchestra. On June 3, 1908, he directed Haydn's "Creation," abridged, with orchestral accompaniment. Mrs. Christine Engstrom has been soprano soloist of the choir since 1890.

The annals of this organization have been given at some length because it is a typical Swedish-American church choir. Besides performing its chief function, viz., assisting in the congregational singing, it has generally prepared from one to three anthems for each Sunday, besides rehearsing special choruses and cantatas for numerous concerts during its long career.

Edward A. Wimmerstedt

The first professional musician among the Swedish Illinoisans was, without doubt, Edward Anders Wimmerstedt, who was born at Skärstad, near Jönköping, Sweden, Jan. 18, 1838. His father, Anders Wilhelm Wimmerstedt, was an organist and musical director, having attained both positions by examination. He was a prolific composer.

The son emigrated in 1863 and settled in Chicago, where he was a piano teacher for three years. In 1866 he moved to Jacksonville, Ill., where he became the director of the musical department of Illinois Female College. He also imparted instruction in the Illinois School for the Blind in the same city. Mr. Wimmerstedt married a fellow teacher in the college, Marion Phillips, a soprano and pianist. They

gave many recitals during their career at the college. E. A. Wimmerstedt composed many songs and piano pieces which were popular in the sixties and seventies. On one of his programmes, dated Nov. 15, 1878, are to be found the titles "Shadows," a song, "Mirth and Prank," a rondo and "Polacca Sentimentale," Op. 156. He is said to have become wealthy through his musical talents.

Wimmerstedt became consumptive and went to Napa, Cal., in 1879 or 1880, where he bought a fruit farm which he cultivated successfully.



Edward A. Wimmerstedt

In the fall of 1883 a frost was threatened, whereupon he climbed to the top of a tree to cover it with a sheet and thus protect it from damage. The limb broke and Wimmerstedt fell to the ground and was hurt internally. He was taken to Oakland, where he lingered some time. He died on Oct. 28, 1883, leaving a widow, who still survives.

Oliver Larson

Oliver Larson was born in 1851 at Åhus, Skåne, Sweden. He emigrated in 1863 with his parents who settled in Chicago. The father purchased a melodeon and Oliver attained with its aid quite a pro-

ficiency in playing. His voice developed into a rich second bass. In 1869 he became identified with an organization known as the Scandinavian National Quartette, composed besides himself of two Swedes, John L. Swenson, C. J. Blomquist, and three Norwegians, Evert, Jacobsen and Olsen. They made a tour of Wisconsin and Minnesota, always appearing in provincial costumes. After returning they became the nucleus of the Freja Society.

Mr. Larson was a typographer and had worked in the "Hemlandet" and "Svenska Amerikanaren" offices. Leaving in 1873 for



Oliver Larson

Minneapolis, he worked there at his trade and married in that city.

Mr. Larson became active in the musical life of the twin cities, singing solos and leading quartettes and male choruses. For several years he was organist of the Augustana Sw. Luth. Church and besides gave instruction in vocal and instrumental music. He was drowned June 18, 1882, in the Mississippi river and left a widow and a daughter. Mr. Larson was a brother of Emil Larson, the well-known musician.

Joseph E. Osborn

One of the pioneer Swedish-American musicians is Jos. E. Osborn, son of the patriarch, Lars P. Esbjörn. During a portion of the year 1869 he was organist and choir leader of the Immanuel Church in Chicago. In 1875-6 he was organist of the Swedish Lutheran church in Boston. The next year he moved to Andover, Ill., where he served as school teacher and organist until 1883. It was at Andover in the summer of 1880 that the idea of the Augustana Oratorio Society was

first broached. Joseph Osborn became leader of the society and conducted the "Messiah concerts" at various places during the next few years. From the proceeds of half a dozen concerts conducted under his direction at Lindsborg the first building of Bethany College was erected. Mr. Osborn has two daughters who have had musical careers. Constance Osborn has been well-known as a pianiste in Minnesota. Esther Osborn has not only appeared as a vocalist in this country but has prosecuted further studies at the Royal Conservatory of Music in Stockholm and has made a successful debut in the Royal Opera in that city.

Anna Frederika Magnusson Jewett

It was in 1855 that Lewis J. Magnusson came to Chicago with his family. He was a merchant, an early member of the Svea Society, and was a cousin of Consul von Schneidau's wife. He had once lived in New York, where he met Sarah Corning, a young lady of Huguenot and New England ancestry, who was becoming known in literary circles through her sketches, essays and verses. They were mutually attracted and were married. Moving to Stockholm, his birthplace, Mr. Magnusson embarked in business and prospered. Mrs. Magnusson became thoroughly acquainted with the Swedish language and translated many Swedish poems into English. The young couple mingled in the literary and musical circles of the day. Among the family friends were Crusenstolpe, Fredrika Bremer, Jenny Lind, and Ole Bull. Three children were born to the parents: Howard C. Magnusson, who became the founder of Northwestern College of Dental Surgery, Anna Frederika and Rosalie.

Anna Frederika began the study of the piano at the age of seven. The talented girl made rapid progress, for when only thirteen years old she played with orchestral accompaniment at the Saturday afternoon concerts instituted by Arne, an early Chicago musician. The next year she became organist of the St. Ansgarius Church, and subsequently had a similar position in Ascension Church. Having found that she had an unusually good voice, Anna went to New York, where she studied under the direction of Barille, the brother and teacher of the famous Patti. In 1860 she went to Hamburg to study with Mme. Cornet. It is said that she was the first Chicago girl to go abroad to seek instruction in music. She soon met Jenny Lind, who advised her to become a pupil of Lamperti at Milan. Anna went there and studied operatic singing with the famous Italian vocal teacher. She also studied dramatic art with Fiorvanti and the playing of accompaniments with Alberti, remaining three years in Italy.

Returning in 1864 to Chicago, Miss Magnusson sang at the Chicago

Philharmonic Society's concert in Bryan Hall and was enthusiastically welcomed. She also sang to the Swedish people at the St. Ansgarius and Immanuel churches. Engaged as prima donna by Strakosch for a season of grand opera, she was having great success when she was stricken with typhoid fever. Several recurrences of the illness induced



Anna Frederika Magnusson Jewett

her permanently to abandon the operatic stage. Miss Magnusson opened a studio in Crosby Opera House and entered upon a successful career as vocal teacher. Among the many pupils trained by her was Marie Engel, a grand opera singer. She married Frederick Jewett and thereafter was known as Mrs. Magnusson Jewett. While in Europe she had been correspondent for the "Evening Journal." She was a facile writer and prepared many articles for the musical journals. No less than six languages were familiar to her.

Mrs. Magnusson Jewett was seized with a stroke of apoplexy and died on May 8, 1894.

Rosalie Magnusson Lancaster

The younger daughter, Rosalie, was born in Stockholm and came to Chicago at a tender age. When she was six years old her parents took her to hear Ole Bull, the violinist. After they had returned home, the child asked her father to open the piano. Seating herself, she astonished her parents by playing through one of the Norwegian violinist's selections, "The Carnival of Venice." While still a young girl, she became a pupil of Louis Staab, a Chicago pianist, and continued with him several years. After a period of study in New York she went



Rosalie Magnusson Lancaster

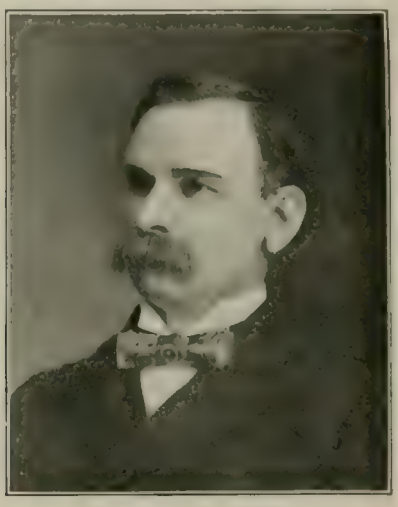
to Berlin in 1871, where she was a student under the ablest masters. In Vienna she enjoyed the advantage of studying under the personal direction of Anton Rubinstein, who took a kind interest in her.

After three years of intense application, Miss Magnusson returned to this country. She was married to Alvin M. Lancaster and moved to southern California, where she achieved a reputation as a concert pianiste. She was generally regarded as the most successful piano teacher on the Pacific Coast, having trained a number of concert pianists and piano teachers. The Lancaster Musical Club, a southern California society, was named in her honor.

Mrs. Lancaster has recently returned to Chicago, where she, besides giving occasional recitals, imparts instruction on her chosen instrument. She is a fine linguist and is a writer of ability on musical subjects. Mrs. Lancaster's daughter Rosalie is also a professional pianiste.

The Freja Society

A singing society named Freja was organized in the fall of 1869 by Swedes and Norwegians in Chicago. The initiative was taken by John L. Swenson, together with a little company of Chicago singers upon their return from a concert tour in the Northwest. The fundamental idea was to unite the Scandinavian singers of Chicago into a common, powerful organization. Its first director was Mr. Swenson,



John L. Swenson

who led the choral society for ten years. A biographical sketch of him appears elsewhere in this work.

The chorus numbered sixty singers on an average. Many excellent concerts were given, attracting audiences numbering as high as one thousand persons. The bulk of the membership in Freja was Swedish. A sick and death benefit was an added feature of the society, but the principal beneficiaries turned out to be "Bikupan" and Skow-Peterson, Isberg & Co.'s bank, two Swedish financial institutions, upon whose failure Freja lost respectively $500 and $200 of its funds. Among the early presidents of the organization were C. Bryde, G. Nyquist, Henry L. Hertz and Charles Ferm.

Svenska Sångföreningen

A society known by the name of Svenska Sangföreningen was formed in January, 1875, by Alfred Lagergren. Persons of both sexes were eligible to membership and there were no particular requirements, the organization being more of a singing school than a body of trained singers. Almost at the outset the membership was about one hundred.

The results obtained were commendable. Among the soloists who appeared were Emma Larson (Mrs. H. E. C. Peterson), soprano, Christine Britten (Mrs. Engstrom), soprano, and Emma Blanxius (Mrs. Hodge), alto. This chorus was continued until 1879, when it was dissolved, the burden of holding the organization together having grown too heavy for the shoulders of the director.

Alfred Lagergren was born in Kristianstad, Sweden, May 29, 1840. After having had employment in Malmö and Göteborg, he emigrated in 1869 and became identified with the White Star Line steamship ticket office in New York. In 1871 he established a branch office in Chicago and continued in the same business during the rest of his career in that city. Mr. Lagergren was active in musical circles in both New York and Chicago and did all that he could to keep alive the interest in Svenska Sangföreningen. He returned to Sweden in 1883 and has since lived near Göteborg, where he conducts a chicken farm.

D'Ailly and Owen

About 1876 there was in Chicago a tall, good looking young man by the name of D'Ailly. His grandfather had fled from France during the French revolution and settled in Stockholm so that the family became Swedish. D'Ailly had a sonorous bass-baritone voice and sang at concerts in Swedish and American circles. Grau, the impresario, was so struck with the quality of his voice that he paid D'Ailly one hundred dollars a month to aid him in preparing himself for the grand opera. D'Ailly did not appreciate his opportunity, and after a few months Grau's interest in him ceased.

One of the early Swedish musicians of Chicago was Benjamin Owen, (Ovén), who was organist of Plymouth Church about 1878. He retained this position for several years and was considered one of the leading organists of the city. Owen was a good musician, theorist and composer. Some of his anthems, as the "Ave Maria," are still sung. He moved to Wisconsin and died there in the early eighties.

The Swedish Lady Quartette

The woman's quartette which first toured this country, calling themselves the Swedish Lady Quartette, was organized at Stockholm, in 1873, by August Jahnke. They then styled themselves "Den nya svenska damkvartetten." Under Jahnke's management they toured Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Germany and Holland, returning to Stockholm. Continuing their studies for a year, they were graduated from the Royal Conservatory of Music. The two first sopranos now left and a single soprano was chosen in their stead. The members now were

Amanda Carlson, soprano, Ingeborg Löfgren, mezzo-soprano, Inga Ekström, alto, and Bertha Erixon, contralto. In 1875 they started on a tour through Sweden, Finland and Russia, where at St. Petersburg they sang at Nobel's reception given in honor of A. E. Nordenskiöld. They continued on through Germany, Belgium and Holland. There meeting the impresario Max Strakosch, the quartette came to America under his management, arriving in Boston, Sept. 5, 1876. Their



INGA EKSTRÖM AMANDA CARLSON BERTHA ERIXON
INGEBORG LÖFGREN
The Swedish Lady Quartette

first American concert was given at that place with the Philharmonic Club. After a concert at New York they went to Philadelphia, where they sang on Nov. 1st at one of the Centennial Musical Festival Concerts conducted by Theodore Thomas. Myron W. Whitney, the famous basso, and the Thomas Orchestra were on the same programme. After returning to New York and there singing, they went to Boston and on Nov. 24th appeared on the same stage with Ole Bull, Aptommas, the Welsh harpist, and the Mendelssohn Quintette Club. Not long after, they sang at the Worcester musical festival and continued their tour through the eastern states.

In the fall of 1877 the quartette went westward, stopping at Chicago. There, on Nov. 5th, they gave, in conjunction with Aptommas, a concert in McCormick's Hall, at Clark and Kinzie streets, then the largest hall in the city. In the east the quartette sang both Swedish and English songs. To their countrymen they sang only the cherished songs from the fatherland, such as Prince Gustaf's "Kälkarne fram," compositions by Lindblad, Wahlin, Söderman's "Wedding March," "Kjerulf's "Brudefærden i Hardangers Fiord," besides numerous folk-songs, among them being, "En gång i bredd med mig," "Å jänta å ja'," "Tänker du att jag förlorader är," "Vill int' du, så ska' fäll ja'," etc. It was the first time that a Swedish-American audience here heard the familiar songs interpreted by highly cultivated voices. Numerous bouquets of flowers besides frantic plaudits were bestowed upon the quartette by the enthusiastic audience.

After a second concert, given in the same hall, Nov. 7th, a banquet was tendered the Swedish Lady Quartette at Brand's Hall. Vice-consul C. J. Sundell, J. A. Enander, C. F. Peterson, O. G. Lange and C. G. Linderborg made addresses, while Freja and Svenska Sångföreningen sang several numbers.

The quartette was greeted with many poetic effusions in the Swedish and American press of the day. Continuing, they went as far west as San Francisco, where their tour was interrupted, for Bertha Erixon, in 1878, was there married to the violinist Christian Krause. Returning to Chicago, Miss Carlson left them and was engaged as soprano in a Reading, Pa., church. After a couple of years she married August Svenson of Kearney, Neb. In Chicago the remaining two met Emma Larson, a young soprano of rare musical ability and education, who was soon persuaded to join them. The three ladies sent to Stockholm and engaged Anna Cedergren, a contralto of very rich, deep voice. The quartette went on concert tours through Upper and Lower Canada, and all over the United States, until 1882, when Anna Cedergren left them. Bertha Erixon Krause, then widowed, rejoined her former companions, and the quartette traveled until 1883, when the Swedish Lady Quartette was disrupted by the double marriage of two of the members, the event taking place at the Palmer House, Chicago, on June 5th. Inga Ekström was united with Emil Olund, then a politician and business man at Red Wing, Minn. Emma Larson was married to Henry E. C. Peterson, a portrait artist of Chicago.

Anna Cedergren and Bertha Erixon Krause are both dead. Ingeborg Löfgren Schreiner lives at Palestine, Texas. Amanda Carlson Svenson in 1895 went to Salt Lake City where she trained a woman's chorus so well that it gained first prize at the Eisteddfods of 1895, '97 and '99. Mr. and Mrs. Olund moved to Hudson, Wis., and later to

Duluth, where Mr. Olund was collector of customs. They now reside at St. Paul, where Mr. Olund is in the insurance business. Mrs. Olund has continued to use her musical talents as vocal instructor and as



INGEBORG TORGREN EMMA CARLSON
ANNA CEDERGREN INGA EKSTROM

The Swedish Lady Quartette 1878—83.

concert singer. One of her five children, a daughter, is a student at the Royal Conservatory of Music at Stockholm.

During its career the Swedish Lady Quartette was managed by the Slayton Lyceum Bureau of Chicago, the Redpath Lyceum Bureau of

Boston, and then by their own management. They were among the most popular attractions of the day, for no other woman's quartettes had sung in this country prior. The sympathy of the singing and the perfect blending of their voices made them irresistible to their audiences. They had a standing invitation to sing at the Worcester Musical Festival. Their popularity caused several female quartettes to appear under similar names at various periods for years after.

Emma Larson

Mrs. Emma L. Peterson is the daughter of Anders and Sarah B. Larson, who came to this city in 1846, on the same ship with Eric Jansson, the Bishop Hill prophet. The family settled in Chicago and



Miss Emma Larson

it was there that the daughter Emma was born. From her eleventh year it was noticed that she had an unusual voice. When Christina Nilsson was banqueted by the Svea Society on the occasion of her first visit to Chicago in December, 1870, it was Emma Larson who, escorted by Vieuxtemps, the famous French violinist, placed in the Swedish

singer's hands a magnificent bouquet. At a subsequent interview the little girl's voice was heard by Miss Nilsson, who advised her to have it cultivated. Miss Nilsson came to Chicago at various times until 1884, and at each visit Miss Larson was a welcome caller.

Miss Larson studied singing for two years with Sig. Carrozi. She sang solos at the public concerts of Freja and Svenska Sangföreningen in the St. Ansgarius Church, and was well known in the Swedish circles of that time. Besides singing at concerts in various American churches, she was soprano soloist at the Eighth Presbyterian Church and the Fullerton Avenue Presbyterian Church. A benefit concert was given to Miss Larson by Freja and Svenska Sangföreningen, after which she went to New York, where a year was spent in study with Mme. Rudersdorff, the mother of Richard Mansfield. During this period Miss Larson was soprano soloist of Dr. Scudder's church in Brooklyn. Returning to Chicago, she had, in 1878, just accepted an appointment as soloist in St. James' Episcopal Church, when she was asked by Inga Ekström and Ingeborg Löfgren to join with them in reorganizing the Swedish Lady Quartette, which had successfully toured this country for two seasons. The three ladies sent to Stockholm for the contralto, Anna Cedergren. They traveled many times through this country and three times through Canada. Ofttimes they were welcomed to the country towns by brass bands. They appeared on the same programmes with many notabilities, among whom may be mentioned Tagliapetri, Anne Louise Cary, Teresa Carrenno, Edwin Booth and Clara Morris. Among their pleasant recollections is the dinner given them at Washington by the Swedish minister, Count Lewenhaupt. Miss Larson had the leading part, that of first soprano, during her five years membership with the quartette. Their artistic triumphs were brought to a close by the marriage of two of the members. Miss Larson was married June 5, 1883, to Henry E. C. Peterson, the portrait artist, of Chicago, of whom a sketch appears elsewhere in this volume.

Since her marriage Mrs. Peterson has occasionally sung in public at charity concerts.

The Original Ladies' Quartette

The second woman's quartette which sang in the United States was the first one of its kind organized in Sweden and was there known as "Svenska damkvartetten." Hilda Wideberg, Amy Aberg, Wilhelmina Söderlund and Mrs. Maria Petterson, fellow students at the Royal Conservatory of Music at Stockholm, after a successful debut at the university seat, Upsala, toured through Norrland and Finland, sang at St. Petersburg and other Russian cities, at Rome, Leipsic, Berlin, Paris, London and other continental points. They sang at Wagner's home,

"Wahnfried," where they moved the master to tears by their beautiful singing.

The quartette made tours of the United States during the seasons 1878-79 and 1879-80, during which time they made several visits to Chicago and vicinity. Their first concert was held in Hershey Hall on Madison street.

Music at Augustana College—The College Band

The first band at a Swedish-American college was founded in 1874 by President Hasselquist. It played at various college celebrations. At one time it was called Augustana Silver Cornet Band. Like all student organizations, its membership has changed greatly each succeeding year. Prof. C. L. Krantz led the Augustana Band in 1903-4 whilst Prof. L. W. Kling was the director in 1907-8. The membership is usually about twenty.

The Augustana Orchestra

This student orchestra was first proposed by Henning Jacobson in 1879 to some of his musically inclined comrades. The idea caught fire and early in January, 1880, the boys had an orchestra composed as follows:—Samuel E. Carlsson and C. L. E. Esbjörn, first violins; F. A. Linder and J. A. Krantz, second violins; Fritz N. Andrén, viola; J. A. Udden, cello; Henning Jacobson, contra bass; Gustaf Andreen, flute; William Reck, second flute; G. N. Themanson, cornet; C. J. Freberg, clarinet, and Fritz Jacobson, trombone. Henning Jacobson's enthusiasm soon cooled and C. A. Bäckman took his place.

The accompanying illustration portrays the orchestra at this stage of its career.

The boys engaged Petersen, a Danish musician in Davenport, as instructor and chose S. E. Carlsson as director. They had no aid from the college, but bought their own instruments and music, and paid for their instruction themselves. The orchestra played overtures, marches and other light music at college entertainments and made short trips to various towns in Illinois and Iowa, playing in Swedish churches.

When it was decided to sing the "Messiah" at Rock Island, the orchestra was annexed to the chorus. The score, parts and books were imported from London, arriving early in January, 1881, after which rehearsals of the orchestra and chorus began. The story is told under the caption Augustana Oratorio Society.

Samuel E. Carlsson continued as leader of the orchestra until he left college in 1883. Dr. Stolpe now took active charge and introduced some of his orchestral compositions and other music to the members, besides having them play the accompaniments to the oratorios. During



Fritz N. Andrén William Reek C. J. Freberg Gustaf Andreen Fritz Jacobson G. N. Themanson C. A. Bäckman
F. A. Linder J. A. Krantz S. E. Carlsson C. L. E. Esbjörn J. A. Udden

The Augustana Orchestra, 1880

1888 S. E. Carlsson acted as assistant leader. After Stolpe's withdrawal from the Augustana Conservatory the orchestra had a precarious existence. It was revived by Franz Zedeler, who conducted it until 1904. For the next two years it was directed by Christian Oelschlaegel. During the school year 1907-08 Gertrude Housel, the violin instructor at the conservatory, has conducted the Augustana Orchestra. With the help of a few outside musicians they played the overtures to Rossini's "Barber of Seville" and Balfe's "Bohemian Girl" besides furnishing accompaniments for Gounod's "Gallia" and Mendelssohn's "Hymn of Praise." The membership is about sixteen.

Olof Olsson

Among our musical pioneers we may well include Dr. Olof Olsson. It was he who gave the first impulse to the rendering of the "Messiah" and other great oratorios, first at Augustana College and later at Bethany College, where the annual Messiah concerts have become a noted musical event. His glowing account of a Messiah concert attended by him in Exeter Hall, London, at Easter, 1879, inspired the organization of the Augustana Oratorio Society in February, 1881. The idea underlying the establishment of the Augustana Conservatory of Music is also traceable to Dr. Olsson, who that same year publicly expressed the desirability of having an orchestra, a trained chorus and a professor of music at the Rock Island institution. We quote the following words by way of characterizing his musical views and ideals: "If ever there was a place for an orchestra and a good chorus it is at a divinity school. There the great works of Handel, Bach and other masters ought to be most thoroughly studied. In the sacred compositions of Handel and Bach there is more genuine theology than in many a heavy tome of biblical exegeses and theological treatises. Had our congregations the correct conception of the matter, they would forthwith engage a competent professor of sacred music at our institution."

The Augustana Oratorio Society

In the summer of 1880 the preliminary steps toward the organization of an oratorio society were taken by the forming of choruses in various cities and communities, including Rock Island, Moline, Galesburg and Andover, but the actual organization was not completed before Feb. 25-26, 1881, when the various choruses and the orchestra met together to rehearse for the first time. They chose the name Augustana Oratorio Society. After a second general rehearsal the society gave its first public concerts April 11th and 12th, at Moline and Rock Island, respectively, this being the first time that the "Messiah" or any equally pretentious musical work was rendered by Swedish-



The Handel Oratorio Society, 1908

Americans. Encouraged by the first successful appearances, the chorus, orchestra and soloists at once started out on a tour of the neighborhood, appearing at Galva, Galesburg, Orion, Geneseo, Altona and Andover, large audiences being attracted at each place.

The participating members of the Oratorio Society numbered one hundred. Dr. Olsson was president and virtual manager; Joseph Osborn (Esbjörn), musical director; J. F. Ring, organist, and the soloists were, C. A. Bäckman, Wilhelmina Kohler, Sophie Fair, Cecilia Strömberg, Esther and Joshua Hasselquist and Maria Bergblom.

In April the following year the Messiah concerts were repeated. The society first appeared at Princeton and Geneseo, then rendered Handel's great masterpiece in the large Swedish Lutheran Church of Moline two successive evenings. These two events proved a most gratifying climax to the tour, the edifice being crowded to the doors both times, while, on an estimate, five hundred people were turned away.

That same spring the orchestra and soloists went to Kansas and participated in the first renditions of the "Messiah" in Lindsborg and vicinity. The entire society was also invited to Omaha, to several places in Iowa and to Minneapolis. It was found impracticable, however, to fill these engagements, but as a direct result of Dr. Olsson's successful efforts at Rock Island similar choruses were subsequently formed in Lindsborg, St. Paul and New York City.

On Nov. 7 and 8, 1883, a grand Luther jubilee was celebrated at Augustana, and for that occasion there was erected on the slope of the college hill an amphitheatrical structure, named Jubilee Hall, with a seating capacity of several thousand. This rudimentary, yet serviceable structure, now torn down, was made necessary principally through the success of Dr. Olsson and the Oratorio Society in attracting large audiences. The "Messiah" was sung the first evening. The second concert was devoted chiefly to Wennerberg's "Psalms of David," Dr. T. N. Hasselquist figuring as one of the soloists. Two days after, the orchestra assisted at a similar celebration in Chicago. The following year P. A. Edquist became director of the chorus. Some of the choruses from "Messiah" were repeated in the annual concert. On June 10, 1885, selections from Haydn's "Creation" and Mendelssohn's "Elijah" were sung. Nov. 6th, the same year, selections from Wennerberg's "Psalms of David" were sung. Professor Stolpe directed the chorus in 1886 and was followed the next year by James Moody. In the latter part of 1887 Professor Stolpe again assumed direction of the society. At this period Stolpe composed and dedicated to the chorus "David's LXVIIth Psalm" for three solo voices, chorus and orchestra.

During 1888 there arose friction causing a division of the chorus,

Stolpe remaining, however, at the head of the college chorus and orchestra. The same year "Messiah" and Stainer's "Daughter of Jairus" were rendered by the chorus. On June 4, 1891, Bennett's "Woman of Samaria" was performed.

The other wing chose in 1888 Victor J. Tengwald as its director and then adopted the present name, Handel Oratorio Society. Mr. Tengwald rehearsed assiduously with his chorus and in 1889 the "Creation" was for the first time rendered in full, the concert taking place at Moline. At a later concert in Rock Island some of Wennerberg's "Psalms of David" were sung. The "Messiah" and "Creation" were also given.

In 1891 Prof. O. Olsson succeeded to the presidency of Augustana College. He effected the next year a union of the two choruses under the leadership of Prof. G. E. Griffith, who remained in this capacity until 1896. The organization retained the new name, Handel Oratorio Society. At the Jubilee Concert in 1893 the following works were rendered with the assistance of Strasser's Orchestra, Augustana Brass Band and Bethany Brass Band; Stolpe's "Jubel-kantat" for baritone, alto, chorus, organ and orchestra; Gade's "Zion," a cantata for baritone, chorus, orchestra and organ; Cowen's "Song of Thanksgiving;" excerpts from "Messiah," and Wennerberg's "Psalm CL." Other works sung in 1892-6 are Mercadante's "Seven Last Words," Wennerberg's "Jesu Födelse," Gaul's "Holy City," Spohr's "Last Judgment," "Creation," "Elijah," Bach's "God's Time is Best," besides other works of a high order. During 1896 and 1897 Prof. A. D. Bodfors directed the society, presumably drilling several of the above works. In the fall of 1898 Prof. F. E. Peterson took charge of the chorus and directed the performance of the following oratorios: 1889, Apr. and Dec., "Messiah"; 1900, "Creation"; 1901, "Elijah"; 1902, "Creation"; Founder's Day, 1903, "Messiah"; 1904, "Messiah"; 1905, "Creation". Prof. Christian Oelschlaegel was the next leader, repeating the "Messiah" in 1906. Emil Larson, the conservatory director, next assumed charge, and in the spring of 1907 Gaul's "Holy City" was performed. On May 7, 1908, Mendelssohn's "Hymn of Praise" and Gounod's "Gallia" were rendered by the chorus, which on this occasion consisted of 75 voices, accompanied by organ, piano and the Augustana Orchestra of 20 pieces. Mr. Larson in July, 1908, severed his connection with the Augustana Conservatory of Music and thereby with the chorus. The above list of works performed would be creditable to any musical society, but is especially so to a college chorus, whose membership changes from year to year, a large percentage each year being lost to it.

The Chapel Choir

The Chapel Choir at Augustana College has been led for quite a number of years by Edla Lund, the vocal instructor. Many good compositions have been artistically rendered by it in the course of time. Among them may be mentioned Söderman's smaller mass with Latin text called "Andeliga Sanger," Söderman's "Hjertesorg," Gade's "Spring Song" and MacDowell's "Barcarolle." Mrs. Lund has also been conductor of the Choral Union of Moline, which among other things has sung the Söderman Mass, the "Messiah" and Goring-Thomas' "The Swan and the Skylark."

The Wennerberg Chorus

The first male quartette at Augustana College was formed in 1867 when the school was still at Paxton. In that year the 350th anniversary of the sixteenth century Reformation was celebrated very generally in the Swedish Lutheran churches. Professor Hasselquist lectured in many of the Illinois churches and the male quartette, which accompanied him, sang at each place to appreciative audiences. From time to time similar student quartettes arose, so that when the first college building at Rock Island was dedicated in 1875, the students could furnish both band and vocal music to enrich the exercises.

It was not until 1901 that a student male chorus was permanently organized. Gunnar Wennerberg had died that year and memorial concerts were held in many of the Swedish communities. The Svea Male Chorus of Moline asked the aid of the students for such a concert and the Wennerberg Chorus was accordingly organized Oct. 21, 1901. A. S. Hamilton, the first director, was succeeded by Prof. C. J. Södergren the next year. In September, 1903, E. C. Bloomquist was chosen leader. The following April, the chorus gave concerts in Rockford, Aurora, Batavia and Elgin. In January, 1905, Emil Larson, the conservatory director, became the musical head of the chorus. During April, concerts were given in Rockford, DeKalb, Joliet, Aurora, Paxton and Chicago. After commencement, a tour was made, beginning with Galesburg and extending as far west as Stromsburg, Neb., concerts being held in twelve places. Since then the Wennerberg Chorus has sung in Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa and Nebraska.

The repertory comprises the standard Swedish student songs and also many selections with English text. It is noteworthy, that there is an entire absence of the burlesque and vaudeville features characteristic of the usual college glee club programme. Under Mr. Larson's leadership the Wennerberg Chorus has so gained in precision of attack, intonation, enunciation and general musical effect, that it is perhaps the peer of any similar student body in the West.



The Wennerberg Chorus, 1908

Gustaf Stolpe

Gustaf Erik Stolpe was born Sept. 26, 1833, in Torsåker parish, Gestrikland, Sweden, where his forefathers had been organists for a period of one hundred and forty years. At the early age of five years he began to receive instructions in piano and violin from his father, Johan Stolpe. Three years later he was sent to the athenaeum at Gefle, which he attended for seven years. When ten years old, he played the organ at the regular services one Sunday and also appeared in



Dr. Gustaf Stolpe

concert with some visiting musicians. His mother died when he was twelve years old. The young boy relieved his father of playing at the funeral service and performed a funeral march which he himself composed for the occasion. The father preserved at the homestead a pile of musical manuscripts composed by the son from his tenth to his sixteenth year.

At the age of fifteen Gustaf was entered in the Royal Conservatory of Music at Stockholm. After a year he passed the organist's examination with credit and, continuing, graduated at the age of twenty-two, with the degree of Director Musices et Cantus. At this period he acted as accompanist and piano soloist to Jenny Lind during her tour through Sweden.

At the age of twenty-three he was united in marriage with Engel Aurore, daughter of Per Johan Palman and his wife Brita Engel Ihrfors of Vesteras. The same year, 1856, Stolpe succeeded the composer J. N. Ahlström as director of the orchestra at the Ladugardsland and Humlegard Theatres in Stockholm. It is interesting to note that the present royal kapellmeister, Conrad Nordqvist, then played second violin in his orchestra. Stolpe either composed or arranged most of the musical repertory during his connection with the theatre. He composed thirty-eight operettas, each containing from fifteen to twenty-four pieces. Among them may be mentioned "Sven och liten Anna," a three act piece.

Removing in 1863 to Varberg, Halland, Stolpe was engaged as organist of the city church, besides teaching vocal and instrumental music at two institutions of learning in that city. These positions he retained for many years, meanwhile making frequent concert tours in Sweden as a skilled performer upon organ, piano and violin.

During 1879-80 Stolpe had a year's leave of absence which was spent in Stockholm. Much of this time was passed in companionship with his friends, Ludvig Norman and P. A. Oppfeldt. It was at this time that his twenty-four studies for the piano were published.

In 1881 Stolpe left for a concert tour of the United States. The enterprise did not prove a financial success, and he was facing actual want when called to the professorship of music at Augustana College in 1882. He accepted the position, and his connection with the institution resulted three years later in the establishment of the Augustana Conservatory of Music, of which he thus was the virtual founder.

Stolpe gave instruction to advanced pupils in piano, organ, violin, violoncello, voice and harmony. His lectures on musical history were no less fascinating for their style than for the musical illustrations with which they were embellished. Prof. Stolpe was a capable writer on topics pertaining to his art and contributed on occasion to various periodicals.

His ethical views Dr. Stolpe set forth in "En Examinerad Musikdirektör," a monograph written in 1894 to the memory of his deceased friend P. A. Oppfeldt, the contents of the book being an indirect, but none the less vigorous protest against the pretentions of cheap dilettantism.

From 1883 until the end of his Rock Island career, Prof. Stolpe was organist of the Swedish Lutheran Church in Moline. He had wonderful skill in improvisation and his chorale playing has been declared by musicians to be well-nigh matchless. He refused to play music of a "gospel hymn" character at the Sunday evening services, deeming it unchurchly. Consequently a substitute had to perform the objectionable melodies.

During 1888 the Stolpe Trio existed. Stolpe played the piano, Samuel E. Carlsson the violin and A. D. Bodfors the cello. They played many classic compositions. The degree of Doctor of Music was conferred upon Stolpe in 1891 by the New York Conservatory of Music in recognition of his talent in composition.



Dr. Gustaf Stolpe

During the school year 1893-94 differences of opinion arose between Dr. Stolpe and the president of the college, which culminated in the resignation of the former. Dr. Stolpe remained in Rock Island, giving instruction to advanced students. In 1895 he opened in Rock Island a music school of very modest proportions, which existed for several years. In 1900 Dr. Stolpe was called to head the department of music at Upsala College, Kenilworth, New Jersey, and taught there for

two terms. The following year his health failed and on October 3, 1901, he breathed his last.

Dr. Stolpe had a son in his first marriage, viz., Rev. Johan Gustaf Mauritz Stolpe, D. D., Knight of the Order of Vasa, pastor of the Gustavus Adolphus Swedish Lutheran Church in New York City. In his second marriage, with an American lady, he had two sons, George Vitus, a naval veteran of the Spanish-American war, now dead, and David Evald. The widow, Mrs. Malvina Stolpe, resides in Kenilworth, N. J.

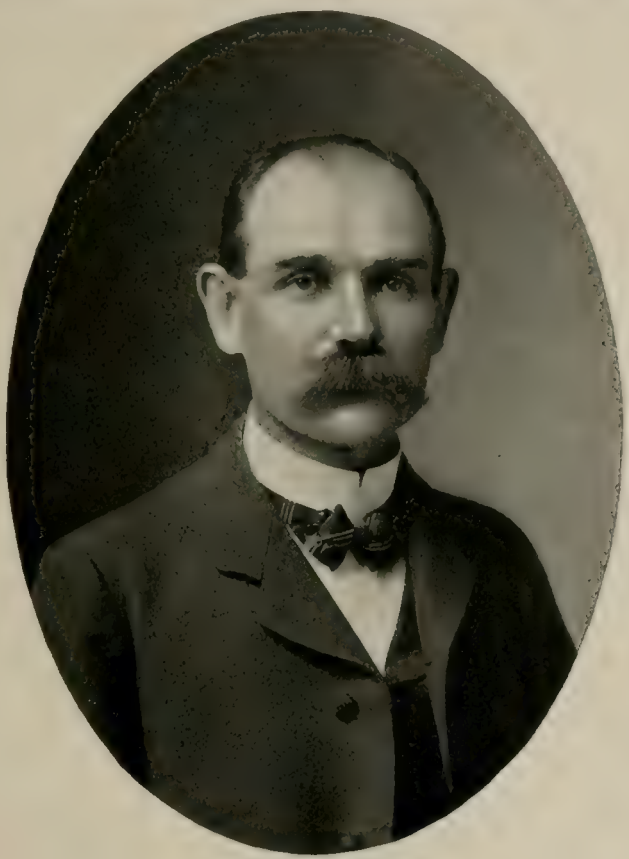
Professor Stolpe was a pious man, who spent his Sunday afternoons in the study of the Scriptures. It is said that he read his Bible through about two hundred times. This undoubtedly had a great influence upon his literary style.

An idea of Dr. Stolpe's productiveness and versatility is afforded by the following schedule of his published works:

Thirty-eight operettas, all of them rendered in Stockholm; about twenty-five orchestral works, among them "Marche Militaire," "Festival Overture," "Mazurka," "Fantasia on Swedish Melodies," "Arrangement of Gavotte from J. S. Bach's Second Violin Sonata," "The Lark in the Sky," "Tone Sketches," a suite, and several more overtures; twenty-five pieces for brass band; a string quartette; a trio for violin, cello and piano; a trio for violin, piano and organ, entitled, "Over the Forest, Over the Sea;" three duets for violin and piano, among them "Vue;" several piano duets; for organ: "Fantasia Heroica," "Symphony," "Concertino," "Preludium and Fuga," fifty "Preludes," "En moders bön;" for piano: "20 Originalpolskor fran Gestrikland," composed by Per Stolpe, 1756, Johan Stolpe, 1792, and by Gustaf Stolpe in his youth, and harmonized by him; "24 Pianostudier," about twenty-five piano solos, including "Vinterkvällarne," "Matrossång," "Gondoliersang," "Guldfjärilarne," "Ballad vid hafvet," "Sonja," "Den gamla, goda tiden," "Prärieskizzer," "En tonsaga," "Hedvig Vals," "Konsertvals," "Humoresk," "Irländsk Dans," "Malvina," "A Dream of Haydn," "Soldatkör;" for mixed chorus: "Körer för Blandade Röster," comprising twenty-four sacred choruses; "Davids LXVII Psalm" for solo voices, chorus and orchestra; "Ordet," for alternating choirs; a cantata for chorus and organ; "Jubelkantat," for baritone and alto, chorus, organ, and orchestra; a cantata for baritone solo, chorus, and orchestra; for male chorus: "Tjugufyra sanger för Manskör," with sacred text; "Dolda ting," "Sverige och Norge"; "100 Sangstycken," for children's voices; about fifteen songs with piano accompaniment, among them being, "Mina dagar," "En lyra är hjärtat," with violin obligato, "Uppå Gud hoppas jag," "På blomsterdoft," "Ängen står slagen," "Paa Fjeldet,"

"When the grass shall cover me," "Hur skönt det är att komma i Herrens tempelgård," besides a sacred duet for soprano and alto, and "Dagar komma, dagar flykta," for soprano, female quartette and piano.

Stolpe's Opus 94 was published in 1895, and the opus number since reached was undoubtedly over 100, as various songs and piano com-



Emil Larson

positions were published in this country during his last years. If the individual compositions in these were counted they would amount to far more than one thousand numbers.

Emil Larson

One of the most prominent figures in Swedish musical life in this country is that of Emil Larson. Schooled under teachers like Creswold, Mathews, Eddy and Sherwood, he has developed into an able musician, whose influence has been far-reaching.

Emil Larson's career as organist, professor of music at North Park College, director of the Augustana Conservatory of Music and as private instructor in Chicago has served to impart the principles of good musicianship to hundreds of earnest pupils, many of whom, in turn, have themselves become music teachers in various parts of the country.

Many odd moments during his busy life have been devoted to composition. Perceiving the dearth of good music for Swedish church choirs, he has written or arranged numerous anthems. About twenty-five of these were published in the collection called "Kyrkokören." A fresh series collected under the title "Sangkören" has just been issued. The new series has also been published in English, German and Norwegian editions. Larson's choral arrangements are characterized by the melodiousness of not only the leading air but also of the inner parts. Many short airs have also been prepared for children's choruses and collected in annuals called "Bethlehemsstjärnan" and "Påsk-liljan."

The folksongs of the fatherland have appealed to Emil Larson to so great a degree that he has taken some of the melodies as themes and built larger musical structures therefrom. "Konsertfantasi öfver svenska folkvisor," "Second Fantasia on Swedish Folk Songs" and "Variations on an Old Swedish Lullaby" show considerable powers of invention and originality, and are very brilliant and effective concert pieces. They are not to be classed with the general run of variations and fantasies on operatic or other airs.

In July, 1908, Emil Larson severed his connection with the Augustana Conservatory of Music, moving to Chicago, where he has resumed his career as a musician. A biographical sketch is given elsewhere in this work.

The Swedish Festival Chorus, Chicago

The May Festival Chorus was organized in 1894 as a part of a movement to provide funds to prosecute the murderers of the unfortunate Swan Nelson. A concert was given in May in the Auditorium and proved a musical as well as a financial success. The chorus numbered several hundred men and women, enlisted mostly from the church choirs and the male choruses. John R. Örtengren acted as director and Emil Larson was accompanist. Early in 1895 rehearsals began for another concert which was held in the Auditorium the following May. "The Heavens are telling" was sung with orchestral accompaniment, besides several melodies a capella. In February, 1896, the name Swedish Festival Chorus was adopted. The membership varied from three to four hundred. A concert was given May 23rd in the Audito-

rium, one of the numbers being Abt's "Neckrosen," arranged for the chorus by Emil Larson. Haydn's chorus from the "Creation," "Achieved is the Glorious Work" was also sung.

The next concert took place May 8, 1897, in the same hall. Wennerberg's largest chorus, "Psalm CXIII," was one of the numbers. Concerts were held in various churches and halls during the season of 1897-98. The attendance at the rehearsals flagged during the last two seasons and the chorus wound up its existence in the fall of 1898.

The Gunnar Wennerberg Memorial Choruses, Chicago

The Gunnar Wennerberg Memorial Chorus, for the most part composed of the same material as the Swedish Festival Chorus, was organized to assist in a concert to be held in memory of the then recently departed poet and composer, Gunnar Wennerberg. John R. Örtengren was the director of the chorus of five hundred voices. The concert, held Oct. 2, 1901, in the Auditorium, began with an organ fantasia on Wennerberg melodies arranged by Emil Larson. The mixed chorus sang "Psalm XXIV" and "Psalm CL," whilst the male chorus sang "Hör oss, Svea," "Stå stark" and "O Gud, som styrer folkens öden." The other Wennerberg numbers were two duets from "Gluntarne" and three solos. Four-fifths of the proceeds were distributed to local charities, the balance being sent to Sweden in 1907 to go toward the erection of a statue of Wennerberg at Upsala University.

In August, 1907, John R. Örtengren gathered a chorus of five hundred voices from the various church choirs and male choruses in order to add to the fund for the proposed Wennerberg statue. The concert was held at the Casino. The mixed chorus sang "Psalm CL," "Psalm XXIV," "Sommarsöndag" and "Trasten i höstkvällen." The male chorus sang "Hör oss, Svea" and "Stå stark, du ljusets riddarvakt." A duet and a solo by Wennerberg were also on the programme.

Baptist Choirs

The choir of the First Swedish Baptist Church of Chicago was founded in 1871 but had a somewhat irregular existence until reorganized in 1891, when it assumed the name Symphony Singing Society. A. P. Nelson, who had been leader since 1889, translated the text to Baker's cantata "The Storm King" and conducted its production on Dec. 4, 1891. It was repeated in 1892 and 1893. Among the later leaders were Axel Francke 1899, John E. Spann 1895-8, 1900-3, and 1908.

A male chorus, Sångarbröderna, was organized among the Swedish Baptists of Chicago by A. P. Nelson in 1900. It has sung at several

large celebrations, as the Golden Jubilee concert in 1902, and the concert for the benefit of the Swedish famine sufferers in 1903.

The Swedish Baptist Jubilee Chorus of Chicago is a union choir, organized in 1902 with John E. Spann as director, for the purpose of singing at the Golden Jubilee of the Swedish Baptists on Sept. 27, 1902. The chorus has since been permanently organized. It has taken part in the benefit concert for the famine sufferers of Sweden, April 4, 1903, and in several local charity concerts. The chorus numbers about 250 mixed voices and rehearses about ten weeks previous to the annual fall concert. Among the works sung are Wennerberg's "Psalm CL," Costa's "Zion, Awake," Bellini's "Lofsang," Berens' "Vid älfvarne i Babylon," Gounod's "Unfold, ye Portals," Cowen's "Bridal Chorus," Gounod's "By Babylon's Wave" and Gounod's "Zion's ways do languish."

Mission Choirs

The energetic Axel L. Hvassman was chorister of the Lake View Mission Choir 1890-92, the Swedish Tabernacle Choir 1892-96, 1899-1902 and of the North Side Mission Choir 1896-99, 1902—. In the Tabernacle Church the choir sang P. U. Stenhammar's "Höstpsalm" on Nov. 20, 1892, H. Berens' "Fader vår" on May 25, 1895, L. Norman's "Det gudomliga ljuset" on Dec. 14, 1895, and Gounod's "Vid Babylons älfvar" on Nov. 15, 1902. Several of the above works have been sung by the North Side Mission Choir under Mr. Hvassman's leadership. In 1895 many members of the above choruses sang at the Covenant concerts in St. Paul and Minneapolis.

Mr. Hvassman organized, in 1892, the Swedish Mission Festival Chorus of Chicago. Under his direction the chorus, varying from 350 to 500 voices, has sung at the Auditorium during various seasons such works as Gounod's "Gallia," P. U. Stenhammar's "David och Saul" and "Höstpsalm," A. F. Lindblad's "Drömmarne," Gounod's "Nazareth" and parts of "Messiah" and "Elijah."

The Asaph Singing Society was organized in 1894 by Mr. Hvassman from among the male singers in Mission choirs. The usual quartettes are sung, often furnished with religious text. On Nov. 28, 1896, Petterson-Berger's cycle, "Fjällfärd," was sung to words written by D. Nyvall. The chorus, numbering about thirty-five members, sang at Minneapolis and various points in Iowa in 1900.

Mr. Hvassman is indefatigable in his efforts to provide for his audiences a high grade of choral music, both as to content and vocal quality. He is one of the best Swedish chorus directors in the state.

One of the excellent Swedish choirmasters in Illinois is Andrew G. Hvass, who led the Lake View Mission Choir in the singing of P. U.

Stenhammar's fine "Höstpsalm" on Nov. 29, 1900. For several years he had a union chorus in Lake View, Chicago. Since 1906 he has been leader of the Swedish Tabernacle Choir. This excellent chorus sang Stenhammar's "Höstpsalm" and part I. of Gaul's "Ruth" Nov. 29, 1906, while on June 29, 1907, it sang A. F. Lindblad's "Drömmarne." Mr. Hvass has organized the South Side Choral Union which sang Van Boom's "Lofsång" and Stolpe's "Davids LXVII Psalm" on April 9, 1908, in the Swedish Tabernacle.

Lutheran Choirs

John Peters, organist and choir leader of Salem Sw. Luth. Church in Chicago was educated in Oberlin and New England musical conservatories. Besides the usual work, he has prepared many programmes with excerpts from standard oratorios and cantatas.

The Trinity Sw. Luth. Church in Lake View, Chicago, sang "Bethlehem" under Robert Anderson in 1904. The next year, when Otto Carlson became leader, the choir sang Stainer's "Crucifixion." This was repeated in 1906 and 1908. In 1907 Gaul's "The Holy City" and Mercadante's "The Seven Last Words" were sung. The choir numbers sixty-five voices.

On Feb. 20, 1908, the Swedish Lutheran churches of Chicago had a "national festival" in Orchestra Hall, where the Swedish-American National Chorus, composed of church choir members, under the leadership of Alfred Holmes, sang Stolpe's "Ordet," a composition for male chorus, female chorus, mixed chorus and final eight part chorus, Wennerberg's "När Herren Zions fångar" and "Aftonklockan," besides several numbers with English text. Emil Larson has been appointed director for 1909.

Many church choirs in various parts of the state have done similar good work. Owing to their preparing from one to four anthems for each Sunday they do not, as a rule, have the leisure to obtain that finesse in singing which the male choruses sometimes attain. Taking this into consideration, the results obtained are praiseworthy. It is worthy of remark that with but two or three exceptions the male choruses have devoted themselves to the singing of small quartettes. The church choirs have not hesitated to learn and perform large choral works, such as cantatas and oratorios, quite often scoring brilliant results. In this respect they may well be emulated by the male choruses.

It is doubtless a fact that one of the greatest influences toward a popular elevation of musical taste in the Swedish communities in this country has been exerted by the church choirs.

The Svithiod Singing Club

The present organization known as the Svithiod Singing Club is the outgrowth of a male chorus formed in 1882 among the early members of the Independent Order of Svithiod. It was directed successively by Björnholzt, E. Beeker, August Elfaker and others. On Feb. 11, 1893, the chorus was organized under its present name



The Home of the Svithiod Singing Club

and charter as a singing and social club. Theodore Sjöquist, then chosen as leader of the chorus, shortly gave place to John L. Swenson, who remained as director until 1906, when John R. Örtengren became his successor. The new organization took an active part in the preparations for the song festival on Swedish Day at the World's Fair.

Jan. 11, 1896, was a memorable day in the history of the Svithiod Singing Club. On that date a tournament of song was held at the



The Svithiod Singing Club, 1896

Auditorium, participated in by male choruses of seven nationalities. The Svithiod, with its twenty-four voices, had to compete with choruses three times its size, but they sang Jahnke's "Sjömannen" with such spirit, such consummate finish, that when the contest was over, the prize was theirs. This consisted of a costly banner, bearing the inscription: "The Champion Singers of Chicago." The judges of the contest were three noted musicians of Chicago. The director, John L. Swenson, was awarded a gold medal.

Besides numerous concerts and public entertainments, this club has made two successful attempts in the operatic line. The first was a rendition of Sullivan's "Pinafore," in Swedish, at McVicker's Theater, in 1897, followed some years later by "The Little Saint," a Swedish operetta, presented at the Studebaker Theater. "Pinafore" was repeated several times, the last being Dec. 29, 1899, and Jan. 7, 1900, with the aid of the Swedish Glee Club. The two choruses played Gustaf Wicklund's "En afton på Tre Byttor" Dec. 30, 1899.

To the select chorus that toured Sweden in 1897 Svithiod contributed sixteen members, being one of the two clubs to appear independently at the concerts given in the old country.

The Svithiod Singing Club owns its clubhouse, located at 1768 Wrightwood avenue, to which was added in 1901 a concert hall with a seating capacity of several hundred.

The Swedish Glee Club

A male chorus called Svenska Sangsällskapet, founded in 1887, was led by John L. Swenson for two years. In 1889 it was consolidated with a social organization known as the Swedish Club, and renamed the Swedish Glee Club. Having secured John R. Örtengren as director, it soon proved itself a splendid aggregation of singers. At the Scandinavian singing festival held in 1891 at Minneapolis, they took second honors, but for a long period thereafter were accorded foremost rank among the clubs of the Swedish-American singers' union. The Glee Club furnished many of the best voices that went to make up the picked chorus for the Sweden tour in 1897.

Among the more notable numbers in its repertory may be mentioned Söderman's "Ett bondbröllop," Hedenblad's "På knä," Witt's "I natten," Körling's "Sten Sture," Grieg's "Landkjending," Norén's "Styrbjörn Starke," Hallström's "Hymn till fosterlandet," and portions of Bruch's "Scenes from Frithiof's Saga." The operetta "Doktor Dulcamara" has been given several times by the club.

A few years back the club was demoralized, partly by the loss of men who had become leaders of other clubs, but chiefly on account of flagging interest in the rehearsals on the part of the remaining members. It was in excellent form at the festival held in Chicago in 1905,

but shortly thereafter discontinued regular practice. It was revived in the fall of 1906, under the leadership of William Dahlén.

The Swedish Glee Club occupies leased quarters at 470 La Salle avenue. Its club house has been the scene of many a notable event in the Swedish-American musical and social circles of the city during the past quarter century. In the early part of the year



The Swedish Glee Club, Chicago, 1902

1907 the club celebrated its silver anniversary, the nucleus of the organization having been formed in 1882.

The American Union of Swedish Singers

A generation back little groups of Swedish-American singers began to organize themselves into male choruses after the manner of those of the mother country. At private or public gatherings, in lodge halls and at social assemblages, a singer or two would be present who would be asked to give a solo or try a duet together—some old favorite tune familiar to all. A step farther, and the result would be a quartette. This last would frequently form the nucleus for a male chorus, formed to sing, for their own pleasure and the entertainment of their friends, the favorite songs of the home-land. At a later stage, when the

choruses would grow to a score or more of voices, fairly trained under the direction of the most competent one from among their own number, they would attempt the more difficult task of rendering the characteristic creations of Wennerberg, Söderman and others, written originally for the world-renowned student choruses at the Swedish universities.



The Club House of the Swedish Glee Club

A like movement had been going on among the other Scandinavians of the United States. Norwegian and Danish male choruses had been formed in various localities, east and west. In the eastern states a union of Scandinavian fraternal and mutual aid societies was effected in the middle eighties. Why not a similar organization of singing societies? The idea was taken up by the Scandinavian Society of Philadelphia at the instance of Capt. C. M. Machold, on whose initiative an association known as the United Scandinavian Singers of America

was organized on the lines of the German-American Sängerbund. The organization took place in the city of New York May 16, 1886, at a meeting of delegates from five choruses, in Philadelphia, New York, Brooklyn and Boston.

Their first singing festival was held at Philadelphia the following year. This was attended by a strong Norwegian male chorus from Chicago, which was forthwith admitted to membership in the union. The association now grew so rapidly that at the next festival, held in



Carl Fredrik Lundqvist

Chicago in 1889, about six hundred singers were in attendance. When the singers met in Minneapolis after another interval of two years, about two hundred more had been added. Up to this time harmony had been the predominant note in the united choruses, but the attempt, auspicious at first, to keep the organization intact from the traditional strife between Swedes and Norwegians, was destined to fail. Quarrels arose between these two factions, while the Danes held aloof and made unsuccessful overtures for peace. Close upon the Minneapolis festival followed the dissolution of the organization.

The Swedish choruses having gained many triumphs at the song festivals, were desirous of continuing mutual relations among them-

selves, and soon conceived the idea of forming a federation of their own. The Lyran Singing Club of New York took the initiative in calling the choruses together, and at a meeting held in the club house of the Swedish Glee Club of Chicago on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 24, 1892, there was organized the American Union of Swedish Singers. Charles K. Johansen, a member of the Lyran, is the acknowledged father of the organization, having been the first to propose the idea and one of the most zealous promoters of the singers' union from that day to this. Other men taking a prominent part in the work from the start were, Magnus Olson, John R. Örtengren, Olof Nelson, William Dahlén, John L. Swenson, Fred Franson, Arvid Åkerlind, Edward Molin, Alfred G. Larson and Gustaf Hallbom.

The first singing festival of the new organization took place the following summer and the first of the three concerts formed the crowning feature of "Swedish Day," July 20th, at the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago. The union had engaged three famous Swedish vocalists for the occasion, viz., Caroline Östberg and Carl Fredrik Lundqvist of the Royal Opera at Stockholm, and Conrad Behrens, a grand opera basso. The concerts were held in Festival Hall, which seated 6,500 people and was filled at each concert, thousands vainly striving to gain admittance. The Thomas Orchestra of 140 pieces, led by Theodore Thomas and his assistant, Oscar Ringwall, a native of Sweden, furnished the accompaniments. John R. Örtengren was director of the chorus of about 500 voices from the American Union of Swedish Singers. On account of the importance and interest of the occasion the programmes for the three concerts are given in full.

The First Concert, Thursday, 4 p. m., July 20, 1893

Overture, "Orleanska Jungfrun" ..... August Söderman
Thomas Orchestra

"Hör oss, Svea" ..... Gunnar Wennerberg
American Union of Swedish Singers

Hymn from "Gustaf Wasa" ..... J. G. Naumann
Carl Fr. Lundqvist

"The Countess' Aria," from "The Marriage of Figaro" ..... W. A. Mozart
Mme. Carolina Ostberg

"Swedish Dances" ..... Max Bruch
Thomas Orchestra

"Tannhäuser" ..... Aug. Söderman
Carl Fr. Lundqvist

a) "Neckens Polska" ..... Folksong
b) "I Bröllopsgården" ..... Aug. Söderman
Swedish Glee Club, Chicago

"Fjorton år tror jag visst att jag var" ..... Swedish Folksong
Mme. Carolina Ostberg

"Du gamla, du friska, du fjällhöga nord" ..... Swedish Folksong
Carl Fr. Lundqvist, with Chorus

"Hell dig, du höga nord" ..... B. Crusell
American Union of Swedish Singers

Second Concert, Friday, 3 p. m., July 21, 1893

"Stridsbön".....O. Lindblad
American Union of Swedish Singers

Symphony.....August Elfåker
Thomas Orchestra

Aria from "The Magic Flute".....W. A. Mozart
Conrad Behrens

Aria from "Der Freischütz".....C. M. von Weber
Mme. Carolina Östberg

"Sjömannens Farväl".....Meurling
Lyran, New York

"Svensk Rhapsodie".....A. Hallén
Thomas Orchestra

a) "Don Juans Serenad".....Tschaikowski
b) "I djupa källarhvalfvet".....* * *
Conrad Behrens

a) "Still wie die Nacht".....* * *
b) "La Fioraja".....* * *
c) "Klara stjärnor med de ögon snälla".....I. Dannström
Mme. Carolina Östberg

"Fäderneslandet".....J. E. Nordblom
American Union of Swedish Singers

"America".....S. F. Smith
American Union of Swedish Singers, and the Audience

Third Concert, Saturday, 3 p. m., July 22, 1893

"Svensk Rhapsodie".....Lalo
Thomas Orchestra

"Vårt Land".....J. A. Josephson
American Union of Swedish Singers

"Qvarnruinen".....Aug. Söderman
Carl Fr. Lundqvist

Aria from "The Jewess".....Halevy
Conrad Behrens

"Naturen och hjärtat".....O. Lindblad
Svithiod Singing Club

a) "Sjung, sjung".....J. A. Josephson
b) "Vandring i skogen".....G. E. Geijer
c) "Sover du, min Sjæl?".....E. Sjögren
Carl Fr. Lundqvist

"Swedish Folksong".....A. Hamerik
Thomas Orchestra

"Bröllopsmarsch".....Aug. Söderman
Swedish Glee Club, Chicago

a) "Trollhättan".....O. Lindblad
b) "Nu är det natt".....F. Abt
c) "Per Svinaherde".....Swedish Folksong
Conrad Behrens

a) "Vermlandsvisan".....Swedish Folksong
b) "Du gamla, du friska, du fjällhöga nord".....Swedish Folksong
Carl Fr. Lundqvist, with Chorus

"Stå stark, du ljusets riddarvakt".....G. Wennerberg
American Union of Swedish Singers

The above programmes show a preponderance of compositions by Swedish composers, particularly some of the best of the works of the brilliant Aug. Söderman. The symphony by August Elfaker, a Chicago organist, was an overambitious attempt at orchestral writing. The three soloists were superior in vocal gifts to any subsequent visitors from Sweden. They all had taken part in a concert on July 18th, given at Central Music Hall by the union. Mr. Lundqvist gave a parting concert with the Swedish Glee Club on Sept. 2, 1893, at the same place.

It having been decided to hold quadrennial conventions and festivals, the union next met in 1897, at New York City. Immediately thereafter, according to a pre-arranged plan, a select chorus of fifty men, with John R. Örtengren as musical director, sailed for Sweden to visit the Northern Industrial Exposition at Stockholm and give a series of concerts in the principal Swedish cities. Their reception in the old country was as cordial as could be wished, and the tour, besides being a highly enjoyable pleasure trip for the participants, served the additional purpose of dispelling the too prevalent skepticism in Sweden as to the status of general culture among the Swedish people in the United States. The work of the chorus, while not up to the high standard attained by the famous student singers of Sweden, nevertheless did not fall so far below that standard as not to be characterized as an artistic triumph.

Jamestown, New York, was the scene of the next convention, in 1901. In addition to the regular concerts given there, the chorus of four hundred voices sang at the Chautauqua Assembly, to an audience that filled the great amphitheater to overflowing. This occasion was one of the highest significance for the singers' union, demonstrating, as it did, that their renditions were listened to with the greatest zest by a discriminating audience not made up of their own fellow countrymen and to whom both the words and music of the songs were foreign. Add to this that the event carried the fame of the singers into wide circles never reached before, and it is apparent that this was a most notable triumph in the history of the American Union of Swedish Singers.

The 1905 convention was held in Chicago, and the grand concerts, given in the Auditorium, proved highly artistic events. At a subsequent Bellman festival, held in one of Chicago's summer gardens, the chorus sang before a still larger and more cosmopolitan audience than that assembled at the Auditorium.

For these song festivals the singers' union has brought over from Sweden a number of its most renowned artists of the operatic stage, such as Caroline Östberg, Carl Fredrik Lundqvist, Conrad Behrens, John Forsell and Anna Hellström, besides bringing out many Swedish-

American soloists, not a few of whom have risen from the rank and file of the male choruses.

The singers' union is divided into two sections, an eastern and a western division, each holding a quadrennial convention and song festival, so that the singers meet every two years, either jointly or in two separate bodies. The joint festivals are held in the East and West alternately, and heretofore the concerts have been directed in turn by Arvid Åkerlind of New York and John R. Örtengren of Chicago.

In 1908 the singers' union decided to send, in 1910, a select chorus of fifty voices from their body on a concert tour of Sweden, under the direction of John R. Örtengren.



John R. Örtengren, 1893

At the present time the singers' union numbers about sixty clubs, those in Illinois forming one-fifth of the entire constituency. No less than nine of these are found in Chicago, while Rockford and Moline boast two each. Outside of this state the union has the bulk of its membership in New York, New England and Minnesota. The Rockford choruses are the Lyran Singing Society, John L. Swenson, director, and Sveas Söner, John R. Örtengren, director. The Moline Societies are the Svea Male Chorus, Petrus Brodin, director, and the Olive Male Chorus, Adolph Erickson, director.

The Chicago male choruses made numerous public appearances under the leadership of John R. Örtengren before they were incorporated in 1906 as the Swedish Singers' Union of Chicago. The Chicago

choruses, with their respective leaders, are: Svithiod Singing Club, John R. Örtengren; Swedish Glee Club, Lyran and Norden, William Dahlén; Harmoni, Iduna and Orpheus, Joel Mossberg; Zephyr, E. D. Ytterberg; Nordstjernan, Ernst Lindblom.

John R. Örtengren

From the time John R. Örtengren came to this country, in 1889, he has been soloist at several prominent churches, and one of the principal teachers of a large musical conservatory. Leader in turn of the best two Swedish male choruses in the state, several mixed choruses, director-in-chief of the American Union of Swedish Singers, of the western division of the union, and of the Swedish Singers' Union of Chicago, he is the best known musician among his countrymen in the land of their adoption. He enjoys the universal respect and confidence of the Swedish people of Chicago as evinced on more than one occasion. In recognition of his eminent services to the cause of Swedish music in America, Mr. Örtengren was decorated in September, 1908, with the medal of Vasa by King Gustaf V. of Sweden.

The Lund Students' Chorus

Sweden is a country devoted for almost a century to a capella male chorus singing. All of its prominent composers have written music in this style and it may well be questioned whether any land has produced so many beautiful melodies and stirring march songs set for male voices as has Sweden. Although cultivated everywhere, the traditional seats of this style of chorus singing have been at the universities of Upsala and Lund. The Lund Students' Chorus was founded in 1838 by Otto Lindblad, who composed many now famous songs for it and made it, at that time, the best chorus in the North.

From time to time during the last decade there were rumors that either the Upsala chorus or the Lund chorus would tour America. The former body had made tours in Russia, Germany and France, taking grand prizes in the Paris Expositions of 1867, 1878 and 1900. It was the fortune of the latter chorus, however, to take the long trip across the Atlantic before its famous rival. The Lund Students' Chorus of sixty-eight men came to Chicago after a tour of New England and some of the central western states. Their concert was held in the Auditorium on July 7, 1904, under the leadership of Alfred Berg. With the chorus appeared John Forsell, a baritone from the Royal Opera at Stockholm.

The Lund Students' Chorus Programme

Organ, "Variations on Du gamla, du fria, du fjällhöga Nord" ..... Emil Larson
Emil Larson
"Hör oss, Svea" ..... G. Wennerberg
"Glad såsom fågeln" ..... Prince Gustaf

"Stridsbön" ..... Otto Lindblad
"Den store, hvide Flok" ..... Edv. Grieg
The Lund Students' Chorus
"Naturen och hjärtat" ..... Otto Lindblad
Swedish Singers' Union of Chicago
"Dalmarsch" ..... I. Widéen
"Blommande, sköna dalar" ..... Herm. Palm
The Lund Students' Chorus
Organ, "Variations on an American Air" ..... Flagler
Emil Larson
"Undan, ur vägen" ..... C. M. Bellman
"Sten Sture" ..... Aug. Körling
The Lund Students' Chorus
"Björneborgarnes Marsch" ..... * * *
Swedish Singers' Union of Chicago
"Olav Trygvason" ..... F. A. Reissiger
"Till svenska fosterjorden" ..... Arr. af Alfr. Berg
"Ett Bondbröllop" ..... Aug. Söderman
a) "Bröllopsmarsch;" *b*) "I kyrkan;" *c*) "Önskevisa;" *d*) "I bröllopsgården"
The Lund Students' Chorus

Besides the eleven numbers indicated, the chorus sang several extra numbers. The first tenors had a beauteous lyrical quality of voice whilst the second basses gave forth a smooth and resonant tone. The distinct articulation, the good pronunciation, the precision of attack and steadiness of pitch were remarkable. The nuances and climaxes attained can be compared to the effect produced by a fine string orchestra. This was most marked in "Undan, ur vägen." Grieg's "Den store, hvide Flok" was new to the audience and was greatly admired. The noble but difficult ballad "Sten Sture" was brilliantly rendered. The tempi chosen had a tendency of being rather fast in certain numbers. The general impression made, however, is that such splendid a capella singing had probably never before been attained by any chorus in this country.

Concerts were given July 8th at Rock Island, July 9th at Rockford and again on July 10th at Chicago.

The Swedish Y. M. C. A. Chorus

This male chorus was first organized in Sweden to sing at the International Y. M. C. A. conference at London in 1894. It is composed, for the most part, of professional men from various parts of Sweden, who have sung in university choruses, but it includes also several laborers in its ranks. For several years past the Swedish Y. M. C. A. Chorus has been considered one of the best choruses in Sweden. Leaving Stockholm May 28, 1906, it made a short tour of the southern cities of Sweden. Its American tour began June 17th in New York. The chorus sang in Rockford June 25th, and the next day in DeKalb. On June 27th a large audience was assembled in the Chicago Auditorium to attend the

festival of song. Hugo Lindquist was the director and John Husberg the baritone soloist. The chorus consisted of fifty singers.

The Swedish Y. M. C. A Chorus Programme

Organ, Overture to "Raymond" ..... A. Thomas
A. Alfred Holmes
"Stå stark, du ljusets riddarvakt" ..... G. Wennerberg
"Hör oss, Svea" ..... G. Wennerberg
"Öfver skogen, öfver sjön" ..... A. F. Lindblad
"Og jeg vil ha mig en hjertenskjer" ..... Aug. Söderman
"Nog mins jag, hur det var" ..... Aug. Söderman
"Afsked" ..... Hermes
The Swedish Y. M. C. A. Chorus
Fides' Aria from "The Prophet" ..... G. Meyerbeer
Elisabeth Bruce Wickstrom
Violin and Piano Duet, *a*) "Romance" ..... Hugo Alfvén
b) "Norwegian Dance" ..... Johan Halvorsen
Mr. and Mrs. Frederik Frederiksen
"Glad såsom fågeln" ..... Prince Gustaf
"Ack, Värmeland, du sköna" ..... Swedish Folksong
"Dalmarsch" ..... I. Widéen
"Styrbjörn Starke" ..... G. Norén
The Swedish Y. M. C. A. Chorus
Organ, Overture to "Semiramide" ..... G. Rossini
A. Alfred Holmes
Svenska Folkvisor ..... * * *
Elisabeth Bruce Wickstrom
"Guds lof i naturen" ..... L. Beethoven
"Solnedgång i hafvet" ..... E. G. Geijer
"Israels herde" ..... Bortniansky
"Den store, hvide Flok" ..... Edv. Grieg
The Swedish Y. M. C. A. Chorus

The same entrancing effect as that produced by the Lund Students' Chorus was again experienced by the audience. The beautiful timbre of the first and second tenors, the splendor of the first basses and the velvety smoothness of the second basses may be fitly compared to the effect produced by a stringed orchestra or by a brilliantly voiced organ. Several da capo numbers were sung, among them being a novelty, "Stenbocks gossar," by Aug. Körling, which was sung in a spirited fashion and afforded the tenors an opportunity to display their limpid high tones.

After a tour of the central western states a second concert was given in Chicago on July 7th.

The well nigh perfect rendition attained by the two choruses from Sweden will long be a criterion to the Swedish male and mixed choruses in this country.

The Svea Male Chorus, Moline

One of the oldest male choruses in the state is the Svea Male Chorus of Moline, which was organized Aug. 23, 1887. The nucleus was formed from the sixteen male voices in the Swedish Lutheran Church Choir. It remained a church organization for a number of years, until it engaged its own quarters. Its musical directors have been William



The Svea Male Chorus, Moline, 1907

Ljung, 1887-91, P. Hartsough, 1891-2, William Svensson, then teacher at Augustana Conservatory, 1892-3, Joseph Lindstrom, 1893-4, C. M. Carlstedt, 1894, D. S. Davies, 1894-6, Adolf Hult, 1896-7, C. M. Carlstedt, 1898-1902, Edla Lund, 1902-5, Emil Larson, 1905-8. In August, 1908, Petrus Brodin was chosen leader. During the last few years the chorus has gained so much in precision, in surety of pitch, in shading and

phrasing, as to make it one of the best male choruses in the singers' union.

Gustaf Holmquist

Doubtless Gustaf Holmquist is the Swedish-American vocalist who is best known to the American music loving public. Gifted with an imposing presence and a rich and sympathetic voice, he is rapidly becoming a favorite oratorio singer, for he is engaged by the leading choral societies of the country, from the central West to the East. Having sung the bass solo in the production of Gabriel Pierne's "The



Gustaf Holmquist

Children's Crusade," by the Apollo Club of Chicago, he has been engaged to take the same part on Feb. 19, 1909, with the Minneapolis Philharmonic Society.

Ever since 1900, when he moved to Chicago, Mr. Holmquist's voice has been a familiar one to Swedish concert audiences in Illinois. An extended biographical sketch of Mr. Holmquist is given in another part of this work.

The Orion Quartette

The Orion Quartette has existed since 1887, when it made its first public appearance in Chicago. William Dahlén is first tenor, Mauritz Hultin, second tenor, Peter Westerberg, first bass, and Emil Granath,

second bass. They have been principals at scores of concerts during the last twenty years and probably form the oldest existing Swedish male quartette in the state. Many similar organizations are to be found in all Swedish communities.

The Swedish Ladies' Octette

The Swedish Ladies' Octette was organized in 1888 and came to New York in the fall of that year from Sweden. The members were:



M HULTIN W DAHLEN E GRANATH F WESTERBERG
The Orion Quartette

first sopranos, Agnes Stabergh, Wilma Sundborg; second sopranos, Maria Hedén, Amanda Carlson-Svenson; first altos, Elizabeth Bruce, Maria Solberg; second altos, Amelia Hedén, Hilma Zetterstrand. After touring the eastern states throughout the winter, they went west and gave concerts in Chicago, March 19 and 20, 1889, after which they sang in various Swedish communities in Illinois the rest of the season. They toured the country from coast to coast twice and also sang their way through Canada and British Columbia. The octette's last concert was in Englewood, Chicago, on May 12, 1891. Jenny Norelius, a native of Helsingland, was a substitute for a sick member for almost one season. Miss Norelius is very generally known as Mme. Norelli, a prima donna of the Italian Grand Opera Company of New York.

The Swedish Ladies' Quartette

For several years past there has existed in Chicago the Swedish Ladies' Quartette, composed as follows: Ida Linn-Cooley, first soprano, Maria Solberg-Sinn, second soprano, Stephanie Hedén, first alto, and



MARGARET DAHLSTROM STEPHANIE HEDEN IDA LINN COOLEY MARIA SOLBERG SINN

The Swedish Ladies' Quartette

Margaret Dahlstrom, second alto. Their repertory comprises many of the Swedish student songs, besides songs in English, especially arranged for women's voices. Mrs. Cooley and Miss Dahlstrom have appeared with credit as soloists on numerous occasions. Mrs. Solberg-Sinn was a member of the Swedish Ladies' Octette.

The Carlsson Trio

The Carlsson Trio has existed since 1907. It is composed of Samuel E. Carlsson, Gustaf Engstrom and Axel D. Smith. S. E. Carlsson, the violinist, was leader of the Augustana College Orchestra at its organization in 1880. After moving to Lindsborg, Kans., he organized an orchestra of fourteen players, which developed into the Bethany College Orchestra. In Chicago he conducted an amateur orchestra for a year in the early nineties. He has played in several chamber music organiza-



The Carlsson Trio, Chicago

tions from time to time. From 1902 until 1905 he was first violinist of a string quartette composed of Messrs. Carlsson, Hoyt, Carr and Carpenter.

Gustaf Engstrom devoted his studies to the violin from his eighth year. Conceiving a liking for the violoncello he derived instruction in that instrument from several teachers, finishing under Carl Brueckner. Mr. Engstrom has played in several trios and orchestras.

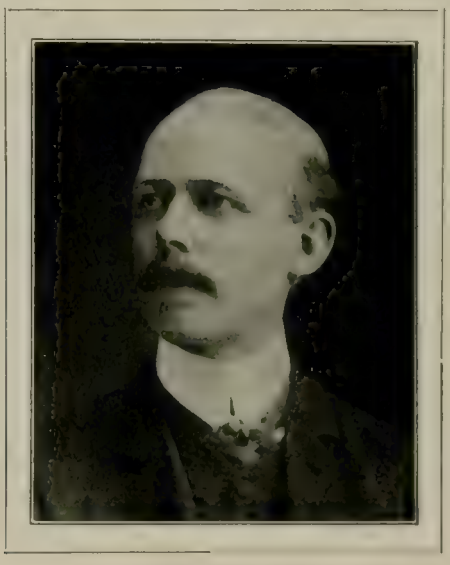
Axel D. Smith has studied the organ and piano under the able musicians Emil Larson, Thorwald Otterström, W. C. E. Seeboeck and Dr. Julius Fuchs. He has devoted his whole life to musical art and has

made a special study of chamber music and is familiar with the works of the great masters in this genre. At present he is organist of the Rogers Park English Lutheran Church, where Mr. Carlsson is choir director.

The Carlsson Trio has appeared in concert at various times during the season of 1907-08. Its repertory consists of the piano trios of Beethoven, Mendelssohn, Haydn, Hummel, Gade and Chopin.

Sigfrid Laurin

Sigfrid Laurin is the best equipped pianist who has come from Sweden to this country. His technique is adequate to all demands, and his repertory is enormous. His playing is sympathetic, though, at times, extremely erratic.



Sigfrid Laurin

The works of Laurin, most of which are still in manuscript, comprise eighteen songs, romances and ballads for the voice and six compositions for the piano, several of the latter being quite large works. The vocal solos are: songs—"Bön," "Mitt hjertas vittnesbörd," "Julens stjerna;" romances—"Vid grafven," "Solen sjunker," "Hemlös," "I Gethsemane," "Sorgen," "Den döende krigaren," "I höstlig tid," "Bön;" ballads—"Vid hafvet," "Farväl," "It Is Done," "Fran mitt hjertas lyra," "At Eventide," "Till döds;" romantic ballad—"Brustna strängar." The piano compositions are: "Mitt lif," a rhapsody; "Excelsior," a symphonic fantasia, requiring some two hours for its execution; "I drömmar," berceuse; "Öfver djupen," fantasia;

"På örnevingar," concert etude; "Tempelminnen," an arrangement of sacred melodies for piano, in four parts.

A biographical sketch of Laurin is given in another part of this work. Mr. Laurin severed his connection with Augustana College in June, 1908, and has returned to Sweden.

Minor Mention

Eleonore L. M. Wigström was born in Upland, Sweden in 1835. An actress in 1856-7 of the Royal Opera at Stockholm, she was married to V. Planckh. It is related that he sold her to a Russian, Petroff, who had fallen in love with her. After their marriage, Mme. Petroff is said to have studied with the best European masters and to have appeared in concert and opera with many renowned artists, attaining great success. Petroff died in 1869 after spending his fortune. The widow assumed the name Mme. Eleonore Petrelli and gave concerts in Russia, Poland and Germany for many years. Returning in 1886 to Stockholm, she did not thrive, and therefore left the next year for this country. After various adventures she settled in 1888 in Chicago as a singing teacher. Mme. Petrelli gave numerous recitals, although her voice had lost whatever beauty it once possessed. She died Feb. 21, 1904.

Several singers of Swedish birth have sung in grand opera at Chicago, as Christina Nilsson, Sigrid Arnoldson, Conrad Behrens, Olive Fremstad, Mme. Forstrom, Johannes Elmblad.

About 1885 there arrived in Chicago two young ladies from Sweden, Ellen Svendblad and Mimmi Lindström. The former was a soprano from the Royal Opera in Stockholm. Miss Svendblad had a good dramatic voice and appeared successfully in many Swedish concerts during the following three years, after which she moved to New York where she was engaged by various opera companies.

Miss Lindström was successful as a teacher and accompanist. She married John R. Örtengren after a few years and has since then occasionally appeared as accompanist.

C. H. E. Öberg lived in Rockford for several years, where he was organist, music teacher and musical conductor. He was a graduate of the Royal Conservatory of Music at Stockholm, being one of the few to receive the degree of Director Musices et Cantus. Öberg composed several male choruses and edited two collections for male voices, entitled "När och fjärran" and "Skandia." He died in Minneapolis about 1894.

During the past few years A. D. Bodfors, formerly connected with the Augustana Conservatory of Music, has conducted music schools in two or three Illinois cities, including Moline and Rockford. Mr. Bodfors, who is an accomplished performer on the piano and the organ, received his musical training chiefly at the hands of Dr. Stolpe.

De Celle was an amateur Swedish tenor of French extraction who sang in the Swedish church concerts in the early eighties.

One of the Swedish pianists sojourning in Chicago in the early eighties was one Dahlberg, who gave concerts in Swedish circles and aroused considerable enthusiasm through his technique.

Augusta Öhrström sang in Central Music Hall on Sept. 22, 1891. She had but lately come to this country from Europe, where she had sung with considerable success.

About 1890-93 the Lütteman Sextette, organized in Stockholm by Hugo Lütteman, traveled in this country. The male sextette gave concerts at many points in Illinois, and sang with finish.

Wilhelm Lindberg was piano teacher at North Park College 1895-96. He had a small tenor voice and played his own accompaniments on a harp. His piano playing was of a high order.

Ernst Swedelius was in Chicago from about 1895 to 1898. He had a tremendous bass-baritone voice and sometimes appeared at public concerts. More recently he has sung in grand opera at Stockholm.

In the nineties a young Swedish Chicago girl, Miss Helma Nilson, came before the public. Gifted with a fine voice and a charming appearance, she played the star parts and sang the interpolated songs in a number of Swedish dramatic productions in Chicago and other American cities, and subsequently appeared successfully in Sweden.

"Frithiof and Ingeborg," an opera whose plot is founded on Tegnér's "Frithiof's Saga," was produced in the Chicago Auditorium for three consecutive night in February, 1900. The composer, Charles L. Hanson, of Worcester, Mass., adapted the music largely from extant compositions, such as Donizetti's sextette from "Lucia," Söderman's "Ett bondbröllop" and other well-known works.

Martina Johnstone, the New York violinist, and Anna Hellström, the opera singer from Stockholm, appeared at the American Union of Swedish Singers' concerts in Chicago July 20 and 21, 1905.

Ebba Hjertstedt, a Chicago girl, received her first violin instruction in her home city. She has finished her education in Europe and has appeared as soloist with several continental orchestras.

A tour that awakened much interest was that made by the Royal Kronoberg Regiment Band of thirty-five players led by Erik Hogberg. Two concerts were given in Chicago in April, 1908.

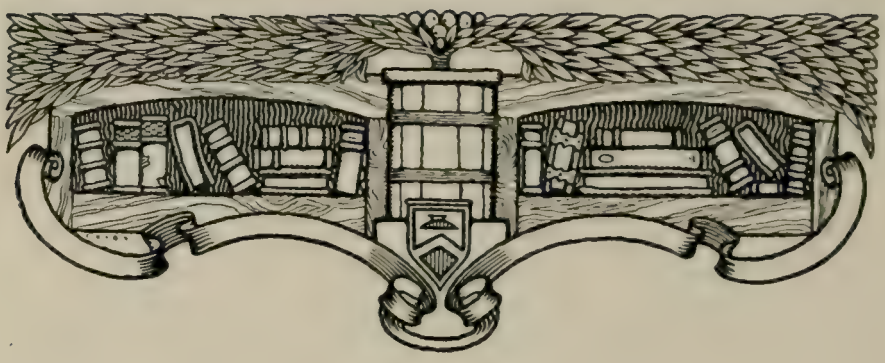
Among professional musicians of Swedish extraction in Chicago whose biographical sketches are given elsewhere in this work are John R. Örtengren, Gustaf Holmquist, Rudolph Engberg, Olof Valley, Hannah Butler, Ragna Linné, Ellyn Swanson, Lydia Hallberg, Elvira Wennerskold and Axel B. C. Carlstedt.

Other Swedish professional musicians in Chicago are Mrs. Christine

Engstrom, Anna Chinlund, Arthur Granquist, Hilma Enander, Edgar Nelson, Johannes Olsson, Karin Lindskog, John Newstrom, John Fr. Ring, Axel Francke, Ernst Fristrom and Sara Nordstrom.

Sketches of the musicians Emil Larson, Sigfrid Laurin, Edla Lund and Frank E. Peterson will be found under the heading Rock Island, in another part of this work.

Many musicianly amateurs are to be found in the Swedish population of this state. Swedish pupils are to be counted by the hundreds, divided between the various music schools and the private teachers. This bespeaks a general spread of culture which was not possible in the first generation of Swedish life in Illinois.



CHAPTER XIII

Press and Literature

Illinois the Producing Center

A SURVEY of the whole field of Swedish-American literature establishes some interesting facts with respect to Illinois. The first Swedish printing-press on this continent was started within the borders of this state. From it was issued the pioneer Swedish newspaper in the United States and the second Swedish periodical in the New World.* Chicago early became the publishing center as well as the center of literary activity among the Swedish people, a position it still retains. Until twenty years ago no Swedish newspapers published elsewhere in this country could compare favorably with those issued from Chicago or dispute the field with them. Even now, with a number of formidable rivals in the East and the Northwest, the Swedish newspapers of Chicago are not outclassed. All the leading organs of the Swedish denominations were founded in Illinois and are being published from Chicago, except one, the Lutheran mouthpiece, which issues from Rock Island. In the matter of book publishing, the production of Swedish books outside of this state is insignificant as compared with that of the Swedish publishing houses here.

The great bulk of the literary output has passed through journalistic channels. To a marked degree the Swedish people have relied on their newspapers to furnish them with reading matter of whatever sort. The result has been, in a number of instances, that around some newspaper has grown up a considerable publishing business. Certain of the secular papers have put out good-sized editions of standard

* Reference is had to the weekly "Report of St. Bartholomew," 154 numbers of which were published in 1801—12, in English, by Anders Bergstedt, at Gustavia, on the island of St. Bartholomew, then a Swedish possession.

works for premium purposes, while the publishers of religious journals have been called upon to supply the respective churches with books of a devotional and liturgical character. Many journalists have devoted themselves partially to independent authorship, as have also certain educators, clergymen and other professional men, but their number has been regulated by the rather limited demand for original works by Swedish-American writers. The literary production of this character, however, embraces a few works of indisputable merit in the field of history, church and profane, religion, civics, biography and memoirs, travel, prose fiction and poetry.

In their literary activities the Swedish-Americans are not, however, confined to their mother tongue. Some of the first and many more of the second generation have devoted themselves to literary pursuits in the language of the land of their adoption. Back in the sixties we find in Illinois newspapers of a distinctively Swedish-American character published in the English language. In communities largely Swedish, here and in other states, one frequently finds young men of Swedish descent in editorial charge of the local English newspapers, while Swedish names also are found in the list of writers on the metropolitan papers and contributors to literary magazines and scientific journals. Among several Swedish names noted in American fiction, one is borne by a young novelist of Chicago.

Early Publications

Many of the earlier Swedish books and pamphlets were published in Illinois. The first one appears to be L. P. Esbjörn's four-page pamphlet entitled "Några enkla Frågor och Svar rörande Döpelsen," which was printed in the beginning of 1854. In the same year was issued the proceedings of the joint meeting of the Chicago Conference and the Mississippi Conference, in Chicago.

When Tuve N. Hasselquist issued his prospectus for the newspaper which, on publication, was called "Hemlandet," he suggested that the readers should each contribute fifty cents toward purchasing a complete Swedish printery which would become the property of the Mississippi Conference. The proposal won favor, and, by degrees, the appurtenances of a small printing shop were purchased and set up at Galesburg. The first material had been bought by Hasselquist in New York for $500. In addition to the papers "Hemlandet" and "Det Rätta Hemlandet," several small books and pamphlets were printed at Hasselquist's shop, which was called "Svenska Boktryckeriet." Among them are, "50 Andliga Sånger" by O. Ahnfelt, 1856; "Enchiridion. Dr. M. Luthers Lilla Cateches. För Allmänna Kyrkoherdar och Predikanter. Noggrann öfversättning Af L. P. E. Med ett upplysande företal."

42 pages, 1856. In the preface, L. P. Esbjörn asserted that the common Swedish editions of the catechism had many alterations, additions and omissions, resulting from the whims of various translators. Now that he was free from the influence of the Swedish state church, he thought it high time that a faithful and correct translation be made. An English translation of the catechism appeared on the pages opposite to those containing the Swedish text. In the same year another English and Swedish edition of Luther's catechism was printed, but this time the



Rev. Tuve N. Hasselquist

usual Swedish text was employed. Other books issued from the Swedish printery are, "Förslag till Constitution för Evangelisk-Lutherska församlingar i Norra Amerika," 12 pages, 1857; "A-B-C bok," or primer, by Dr. A. R. Cervin, 1856 or 1857; "Augsburgiska Bekännelsen," 15 pages, 1857; "Doktor Martin Luthers Sändebref till tvenne kyrkoherdar om vederdopet, 1528," 38 pages, 1857; several small tracts; "Plan för Dr. C. H. Grans Skandinaviska Kansas-koloni;" "Luther-Boken eller Den dyre Gudsmannen Doktor Martin Luthers Lefverne och Gerningar af Herman Fick," translated from the German by Mrs. Eva Hasselquist, 68 pages, 1858.

The Swedish Lutheran Publication Society

At the meeting of the Mississippi Conference held at Galesburg in October, 1856, attention was called to the fact that the Swedish printery founded by Hasselquist was its own property. A committee appointed to examine the condition of affairs recommended that a power press be purchased and used in place of the hand press. At the meeting of the conference in April, 1858, it was announced that Hasselquist desired to be relieved of the responsibility of publishing "Hemlandet," owing to the pressure of his pastoral duties. It was therefore decided to organize "The Swedish Lutheran Publication Society." The following September, the conference, then in session at Princeton, appointed Erland Carlsson, Jonas Swensson and John Johnson to confer with Hasselquist as to the purchase of his newspapers and the stock of books and pamphlets on hand. They were also to order a stock of books from Sweden and to attempt to unite "Minnesota-Posten" with "Hemlandet." The first-named newspaper had been published fortnightly at Red Wing, Minn., since Nov. 7, 1857, by Erik Norelius and Jonas Engberg. When the Mississippi Conference met in Chicago on Dec. 6-9, it was reported that Norelius and Engberg had agreed to sell their printing office and newspaper to the society and become its employees. Hasselquist had also made arrangements to turn over his publications to the society. It was decided to move the newspapers to Chicago before the end of the year. Norelius was chosen editor of the newspapers and Erland Carlsson was appointed business manager of the society.

By New Year's, 1859, the society had moved its possessions into a small schoolhouse in the rear of the Immanuel Church at 190-192 E. Superior street. After the basement of the church was renovated, the concern was installed there. Jonas Engberg, who had been a book colporteur when he first came here, attended to the store and assisted on the newspapers until 1864. From time to time, shipments of books arrived from Sweden to replenish the supply, for there was a brisk demand for reading matter. Engberg left in October, 1864, to engage in another line of business. Erland Carlsson apparently remained in the capacity of business manager until 1868, when he was replaced by Jonas Engberg, who was elected secretary and treasurer. The office was moved in 1869 to better quarters at 139 North Clark street. About this time the society published "Luthers lilla cateches, försedd med bibelspråk," "Hemlandssånger," text edition, "Svenska Psalmboken," text edition, and in 1869 and 1870, "Hemlandssånger," music edition.

In the Chicago fire of 1871 the society lost its entire stock, printery and book plates, and even its account books which were stored in a safe. Fortunately, Mr. Engberg happened to have a trial balance of the

accounts at his home, which had been spared from the flames, and with the aid of that he could make up the accounts. The property, valued at $18,000, had been insured for $10,000, of which $5,000 was collected. This sum was divided between the bookstore and the newspapers. Mr. Engberg had been in Sweden that summer and purchased a lot of books filling eleven cases, which arrived at Chicago shortly after the fire. A basement was now rented on Milwaukee avenue, where the business continued for almost a year, after which it was moved to 94 E. Chicago avenue. The society's publications were now issued anew, and in 1872 Dr. M. Luther's smaller catechism was printed with Swedish and English text.

In the meantime, opposition to the society's activity arose within the Augustana Synod, which was in control, and on Sept. 29, 1874, the book department was sold for $17,000, to the new firm of Engberg, Holmberg and Lindell. It was arranged that this should continue to be regarded as the official synodical bookstore, the synod stipulating that standard works of the Lutheran confession should be kept in stock. The proceeds of the sale went to Augustana College and Theological Seminary.

The Engberg-Holmberg Publishing Company

The new firm, Engberg, Holmberg and Lindell, continued the business at 94 E. Chicago avenue, for two years. In 1874 the firm moved into a new building at 119 E. Chicago avenue, which it has ever since occupied. Charles O. Lindell sold out his interest to his partners in 1876. Soon after, he organized the Star Printing Co., which was bought out later by the book firm. Engberg and Holmberg have, at various times, bought out the stock and book plates of the following publishing firms: De Lang and Osterlind, Julin and Hedenschoug, Wistrand and Thulin, I. T. Relling and Co., Enander and Bohman, P. A. Norstedt and Sons' Chicago branch and Sangen Publishing Co.

In 1884 the firm was incorporated as The Engberg-Holmberg Publishing Company. Jonas Engberg, the pioneer publisher, died Jan. 1, 1890. Charles P. Holmberg remained in active charge of the business until 1900, when he retired. He died May 20, 1903. Since 1900 the firm has been managed by Oscar and Martin J. Engberg, sons of Jonas Engberg.

Besides maintaining a large assortment of imported Swedish books they have produced several hundreds of their own. Of these, twenty-eight are language methods and school books; ten are histories and books of travel; thirty-nine are devotional and other religious works; one hundred and four are Sunday school storybooks; thirty-five are other works of fiction; fourteen are hymnals; eighteen are poems



K WALLEN C. P. HOLMBERG C. O. LINDELL
F. N. ANDREN JONAS ENGBERG

The Engberg and Holmberg Book Store, 1884

and collections of poetry; fifty-five are music books and pamphlets, in addition to which there are ninety-one pieces of sheet music; while sixty-one publications are of a miscellaneous character. The total, four hundred and fifty-five, does not include reprints of short stories from collections, nor reprints of songs from collections. Of the latter over two hundred separate numbers are issued. Many of the songs are provided with English text, but otherwise almost all of the publications are in Swedish only. Artistically designed book covers adorn many of the books, especially the poetical collections and the various bindings of "Den Svenska Psalmboken." One collection of choir anthems is issued in four languages. Owing to the large and varied stock carried, they are the central depot of supplies for the Swedish book and music trade in this country. The most notable of their original publications are: Olof Olsson's "Till Rom och Hem Igen," C. F. Peterson's "Ett Hundra År," Mrs. Woods-Baker's "Pictures of Swedish Life," and the present work. The firm has published the following papers: "Nåd och Sanning," 1877-86, "Vårt Land och Folk," a weekly newspaper, 1886-88, "Land och Folk," a semi-monthly illustrated story paper, 1898-1901, "Barnvännen," 1880-88, and the "Children's Friend," 1886-88.

Jonas Engberg

Jonas Engberg was born March 31, 1837, in Berge, Bergsjö parish, Helsingland, Sweden. He spent three years in the collegiate institute at Hudiksvall, obtaining several prizes for proficiency in his studies. Thereafter he was clerk to the crown tax collector. Emigrating Sept. 29, 1854, he landed in New York on Dec. 20th, and there met O. G. Hedström. An account book and diary dating from Sept. 1, 1854, relates this and other incidents. Engberg went to Columbus, Ohio, where he remained a couple of weeks with his cousin, Erik Norelius, then a student in that city. Continuing his journey to Chicago he there became a book colporteur, for he had brought with him some Swedish books. From May until July he taught school at West Point, Ind. The Swedish Lutheran church of that place was too poor to retain him any longer. Resuming his former occupation he sold books until in August, when, after a visit to Bishop Hill, he went to Galesburg and began working in Hasselquist's printing shop. Engberg aided in the setting up of No. 9 of "Hemlandet" and continued in the printery until Oct. 3, 1855. Once more he became a book colporteur and traveled about selling English and Swedish books until September, 1856, when the balance of the Engberg family came from Sweden. From Chicago they went to Red Wing, Minn. From November until January, Engberg was teacher in the first parochial school at Vasa. He taught

singing and the rudiments of English and Swedish grammar, besides the usual branches. His pay, $35.00 a month, was tendered in the form of potatoes. Engberg unfortunately stored his salary in the schoolroom where it froze, whereupon he gave up the vocation. The next summer Engberg worked as a compositor on a newspaper in Cannon Falls. On Nov. 7, 1857, Norelius and Engberg issued No. 1 of "Minnesota-Posten," the former as editor, the latter as printer. Engberg and his brother John, who then began learning the trade, subsisted mainly on



Jonas Engberg

crackers and molasses and slept in the printery. The subscriptions were paid in provisions, silver coin and wildcat currency. In December, 1859, the paper was consolidated with "Hemlandet" and both editor and printer went to the Chicago office. Engberg assisted in the editing and attended to the bookstore. After nine months Norelius left and Rev. Erland Carlsson took his place, soon, however, leaving all of the editorial work to Engberg. The latter remained editor until 1864. During the next four years he was associated with Peter L. Hawkinson as insurance agent and printer. In their office on Lake street they reprinted, in 1865, the first part of "Fänrik Ståls Sägner," 84 pages. This little booklet was dedicated to the Scandinavian soldiers who fought in the Union Army. In the same year they printed "Läsebok

för Barn och Ungdom, utgifven af B. J. Glasell." 160 pages. In 1860 Engberg, together with Sven Gibson, had published "Konung Oskar den fridsälles minne," 91 pages.

In 1868 Engberg became secretary and treasurer of the Swedish Lutheran Publication Society. The next year he also became town clerk for North Chicago. In the summer of 1871 he went to Sweden to make purchases for the bookstore.

While there, he made a visit to Bergsjö, his birthplace, and copied from the church register the names and dates of birth and death of his forbears as far back as possible. He traced his ancestry to Peder Anderson from Savolax or Tavastland, Finland, who was born about 1540 or 1550, settled in 1598 at Rickmäki, also called Rigasen, and in 1600 received permission from Charles IX. to build and live at Sörgården, on the crown estate of Kjölsjö. Jonas Engberg was the seventh in descent from Peder Anderson, being a grandson of Anderson's great-grandson's granddaughter. In this well-authenticated instance, there were eight generations in a span of three hundred and fifty years, an average of about forty-three years for each generation.

It has already been related how Jonas Engberg came to organize the firm of Engberg and Holmberg. He labored assiduously with his account books and proof sheets, habitually arising at 3 or 4 o'clock in the morning to begin his work. He compiled the old edition of "Hemlandssånger" and translated numerous hymns from the German and English for various songbooks. "Engelsk-svenska Brefställaren för Svenska Folket i Amerika," with mathematical tables and a course in bookkeeping, was written by him.

Mr. Engberg was one of the founders of the Augustana Synod in 1860. It has been related how he was one of the Swedish-American musical pioneers. In the sixties he was a member of Hans Balatka's Chicago Oratorio Society and sang with that chorus when Lincoln's body was on view in Chicago. His musical tastes resulted in the publication of numerous music collections by his firm.

Mr. Engberg's health was undermined by too constant application to work. After a week's illness he died on Jan. 1, 1890.

Mr. Engerg was married March 11, 1861, to Elizabeth Zimmerman, a native of Nussloch, Baden, Germany, born Dec. 10, 1841, who came to this country in 1853, and to Chicago in 1857. She still survives, together with eight of her children. They are: Oscar P. F. Engberg, Helga E. C. (Mrs. Mauritz Stolpe), Vendela B. E. (Mrs. Emil Larson), Martin J. G. A. Engberg, Lucia E. R. (Mrs. Aksel G. S. Josephson), Sigrid M. H. (Mrs. Joseph G. Sheldon), Emil N. J. Engberg and Ruth T. E. Engberg.

Charles Peter Holmberg

Charles Peter Holmberg was born March 8, 1840, in Fjärrestad, Skåne, Sweden. He learned the mason's trade and became a contractor. In this capacity he spent some time in Copenhagen, removing thence to Stockholm, where he lived several years. In 1865 he emigrated and settled in Chicago, pursuing the same trade. From 1869 until 1874, he was engaged in the insurance and real estate business. In the last-



Charles Peter Holmberg

named year he became a partner in the publishing firm of Engberg, Holmberg and Lindell. The latter retiring, the firm became Engberg and Holmberg. Mr. Holmberg eventually became president of the Engberg-Holmberg Publishing Company. He retired from active participation in business in 1900.

Mr. Holmberg was a member of the first board of trustees of Augustana Hospital and was active in church work. He died May 20, 1903, his wife Wilhelmina, née Vetterlund, surviving him.

Carl Oscar Lindell

Carl Oscar Lindell was born Feb. 19, 1847, in Hvena parish, Småland, Sweden. His parents were Carl Johan Roos and Ingeborg Roos.

At the age of ten years, the boy emigrated to this country with his uncle. Going to Andover, Ill., he found a fosterfather in S. P. Lindell, and adopted his surname in place of his own. On the recommendation of the Rev. Jonas Swensson, young Lindell entered the Augustana Theological Seminary at Chicago in 1862. After finishing his studies in the same seminary at Paxton, he was ordained at the synodical meeting in 1868. His first pastorate was at Geneva, Ill. Rev. C. O.



Rev. Carl Oscar Lindell

Lindell was married the same year to Otilia Linner. In 1874 he moved to Chicago and became a partner in the book firm of Engberg, Holmberg and Lindell. He remained with the firm two years, in the meantime having pastoral care of three churches.

Lindell organized the Star Printing Co. about 1877, and published several books. After selling his business to Engberg and Holmberg, he was the chief editor of their periodicals until they were sold in 1888. During 1890-91 he was assistant editor of "Augustana." Rev. Lindell was the founder of Bethlehem Swedish Lutheran Church in Englewood.

Chicago, and served as a mission pastor at various places. From 1903 on, he was assistant pastor to Dr. E. Norelius at Vasa, Minn. On Aug. 16, 1905, while at Red Wing, on the way to attend his daughter's funeral, he was stricken with heart disease and died instantly. The remains, together with those of the daughter, were buried from the old home in Chicago.

Gamla och Nya Hemlandet

One of the first men to realize the need of a newspaper for the Swedish-American immigrants was Rev. T. N. Hasselquist, pastor of the Swedish Lutheran Church of Galesburg. Undeterred by an abortive attempt a few years before to establish a Swedish newspaper in New York City—named "Skandinaven" and published for a short time in 1851-1852—Hasselquist in October, 1854, issued the prospectus of a new paper to be called "Den Svenska Posten." On January 3, 1855, the first number was issued from Galesburg, bearing the name of "Hemlandet, Det Gamla och det Nya," as a substitute for the name originally proposed. The paper was a sheet of four pages, 10 inches by 14 inches, printed at the office of a local weekly in Knoxville. It was at first issued fortnightly and the subscription price was two dollars per year. During the first half-year it acquired about four hundred subscribers, and by the end of the year it had over one thousand subscribers, principally among the members of the ten Lutheran churches founded up to that time, the contents being from the outset and for a number of years to come essentially religious in character and Lutheran in tone. From 1856 a companion paper called "Det Rätta Hemlandet," a sixteen page monthly, purely religious, was also published. The editorial assistant of Hasselquist was his brother-in-law, A. R. Cervin. After running at a loss for over two years this newspaper enterprise was transferred from Galesburg to Chicago, where a publishing concern styled "The Swedish Lutheran Publication Society" was organized, with the energetic Erland Carlsson at the head.

Late in the year 1858 the new company took charge and the first number of "Hemlandet" issued in Chicago was published Jan. 7, 1859, from 192 East Superior street, a small schoolhouse, and later the basement of the Swedish Lutheran church serving as office and printing shop. The "Minnesota Posten" was merged with the "Hemlandet," and the latter became a weekly, with a department for Minnesota news. Eric Norelius, assisted by Jonas Engberg, assumed the editorial duties of the combined papers. The size of the paper was increased twice during the same year.

After nine months of strenuous work Norelius' health gave way

and he resigned. Erland Carlsson then acted as editor, assisted by Jonas Engberg. The former soon after turned the editorial work over to the latter, owing to pressure of other duties. Jonas Engberg was editor during the greater part of the Civil War. He inserted a large number of letters from Swedish-American volunteers in the paper. The originals were preserved by him as long as he lived. A feature of the monthly "Det Rätta Hemlandet" was the hymns provided with numerical notation, sometimes in four part harmony. A. R. Cervin succeeded him as editor on Oct. 26, 1864, and remained until the close of 1868, then left J. G. Princell, his assistant, in charge of both papers until July, 1869, when P. A. Sundelius became editor of "Hemlandet."



Rev. Anders R. Cervin

"Hemlandet" now inaugurated a new epoch in its development. Doubtless spurred by competition with the secular weekly "Svenska Amerikanaren," started in 1866, it changed from a mainly religious to a general newspaper, remaining, however, loyal to the Lutheran Church. The office was later removed to 139 North Clark street, where it was destroyed by the fire in 1871. Three or four days after the fire the paper appeared as a small sheet, printed on one side, being issued from a printing office in Aurora. On Nov. 21st of the same year "Hemlandet" was again issued from its own office, it being the first Swedish newspaper to be issued from Chicago after the fire.

In December, 1869, Sundelius, whose relations with the leading men in the printing company and the Lutheran Church had become strained, resigned and went over to the competitive paper, "Svenska Amerikanaren." Johan A. Enander was at once chosen his successor. He was in the service of the company until 1872, when the printing concern was turned over to the directors of Augustana College to help support that institution at Paxton. The directors, deriving little, if any, revenue from the business, soon sold the newspaper plant, the

purchasers being Enander, the editor, and G. A. Bohman, another employee. The purchase price was $10,000, payable at the rate of $500 every six months without interest. The directors of the Paxton institution entered into a formal agreement not to start any other political newspaper and never to give their support to any such paper other than "Hemlandet." The purchasers held that the directors acted also for the entire Augustana Synod.

The firm of Enander and Bohman published "Hemlandet" as a "Republican political newspaper for the Swedish nationality in the United States." Notwithstanding many reverses, such as the panic of 1873, and successive losses through the failure of Ferdinand Winslow's and Skow-Peterson, Isberg and Co.'s Scandinavian banks in the late seventies, the enterprise was successfully carried on by Enander and Bohman until 1889, when the firm was dissolved.

In 1874—77 the firm published an illustrated monthly, entitled "När och Fjerran," and from 1871 to 1881 "Ungdomsvännen," a monthly paper devoted to the interests of the young people. The firm was not, as it had supposed, protected against competition from within the Augustana Synod, rival newspapers appearing from time to time, including "Skandia" of Moline, founded in 1876 by Prof. Melin of Augustana College, and "Skaffaren" of Red Wing, Minn., later of St. Paul. To meet competition in the Minnesota field, "Hemlandet" in 1883 established a branch office at St. Paul and for a long term of years published a Northwest edition, edited by Herman Stockenström. In 1874—77 the firm published fortnightly a special edition for Sweden and later for a short time maintained a small weekly at Lindsborg, Kans., named "Kansas-Posten." In May, 1886, the firm started a bookstore in connection with its newspaper office.

The firm of Enander and Bohman went into the general publishing business quite extensively. The principal original works put out by them was Enander's "Förenta Staternas historia," vols. I-IV, 1,358 pages, begun in 1873 and completed in 1880. The next in importance was an edition of D'Aubigne's "Det sextonde århundradets Reformationshistoria," vols. I-III, 1,962 pages. Other publications, original works and reprints, by this firm are: "Frithiofs Saga," with illustrations by Malmström; "På Lifvets Vädjobana" (Matthews' "Getting On in the World"); several editions of "Den svenska psalmboken," with and without music; "Zions sangbok," both text and music editions; "Eterneller och Värblommor," a collection of standard poems of Sweden; "Linnea," a collection of Swedish-American verse.

Several of the above named works were used to increase the circulation of the paper. In more recent years "Hemlandet" has published a number of the books given as premiums year by year, including

the following: "Bilder fran Gamla Hemlandet:" "Hemlandets Krigsbilder;" "Sveriges Folk;" "Panorama öfver Amerika;" and Odhner's "Sveriges Historia."

When in 1889 the firm of Enander and Bohman was dissolved the paper was taken over by a stock company. The Hemlandet Publishing Co., comprising Enander, Bohman, J. N. Söderholm, A. L. Gyllenhaal and several others. This company, formed in 1890, was dissolved the following year, when "Hemlandet" was sold to A. E. Johnson of New York. The new owner entered into partnership with Söderholm, who for the next five years acted in the double capacity of editor-in-chief and business manager. Dr. Enander accepted a professorship at Augustana College and later associated himself with a newspaper enterprise in Omaha, Neb. In January, 1896, Mr. Johnson bought out his partner and then organized the present Hemlandet Company, with himself as president, Enander vice president, A. Schön secretary and C. Th. Strandberg treasurer and business manager. Enander again assumed the position of editor-in-chief of the paper. The principal co-editors engaged from time to time have been the following: Magnus Elmblad 1871-1873; Gottfried Cronwall; A. L. Gyllenhaal, 1874-91; C. G. Linderborg; Alfred Heyne, 1881-82; Aron Edström, since 1883; Gustaf Sjöström, 1890-93, and Anders Schön, since 1891.

Johan Alfred Enander

As a publisher, editor and author, Johan Alfred Enander has rendered eminent service to the Swedish press and literature in this country, as shown in a full sketch of his life appearing elsewhere in this work. As a young man he came to this country swelling with pride in the country and people from which he sprung, and in his career of almost forty years in the United States he has made his mark as the foremost champion of Swedish letters and culture on American soil. While a splendid type of the ultra-patriotic Swede, he has shown too little receptiveness to American influences to be a true exemplar of the Swedish-American citizen. Coming here at a time when there was among his countrymen a scarcity of able wielders of the pen, Enander had an enviable opportunity to assert himself and he did so. For the work of educating the immigrants and their children up to a love and a taste for the language and literature of Sweden he unquestionably deserves greater credit than any other man. As his paper enlarged its field beyond the pale of the church, so he propagated his sentiments in widened circles. In this mission, his eloquent tongue has ably seconded the efforts of his pen. Countless are the times he has given to Swedish audiences his ringing orations on festal days or recounted

in carefully prepared lectures the virtues of the ancient Northmen and the deeds of Swedish heroes in modern times.

The history of the United States compiled by Enander in the seventies was a laudable attempt on his part to acquaint the Swedes with the land of their choice. While the four-volume work was a creditable performance for a man who was simultaneously editing a weekly paper and, part of the time, a monthly magazine in addition, it has faults which are not condoned by the acknowledged lack of ability,



Johan Alfred Enander

sources and time. The author gives almost the whole of the first volume to the discoveries of the Northmen and the history of their civilization, or thrice the space accorded to the earliest races on this continent. This can be attributed only to a faulty sense of proportion and a false historical perspective, caused by nationalistic bias.

Among the works of Enander, elsewhere mentioned, the second in importance is a volume of selections from his writing in verse and prose, entitled "Valda Skrifter." As a verse writer he is not voluminous, and he has been charged with a lack of originality, but we

concede to his verses a quality and finish that is rare in Swedish-American poets.

Gustaf A. Bohman

Gustaf A. Bohman was born Dec. 24, 1838, in Skellefteå, Vesterbotten, Sweden. After finishing his school studies, he was a clerk and thereafter was a seaman for several years. In 1866 he came to this country and roved about for some time. After two years he obtained a position with the Swedish Lutheran Publication Society in Chicago,



Gustaf A. Bohman

later becoming the circulation manager of its paper. While Jonas Engberg was in Sweden in 1871, Bohman superintended the bookstore. After December, 1872, when the firm of Enander and Bohman took over "Hemlandet," Bohman acted as the business manager, remaining in that capacity until the dissolution of the firm in 1889. For a number of years thereafter Bohman was a clerk in the county recorder's office and subsequently was employed in the office of "Svenska Tribunen" until the death of Andrew Chaiser. Mr. Bohman was a member of the board of trustees of Augustana Hospital in 1884, and at various other times was honored with positions of trust in his church denomination and elsewhere. On July 5, 1906, Mr. Bohman died from heart disease, leaving a widow, three sons and a daughter.

Eric Norelius

In 1872–73 Eric Norelius published "Luthersk Kyrkotidning" and during the year 1878 "Evangelisk Luthersk Tidskrift," which he continued in 1879–82 under the name of "Skaffaren."

Ever since he came to this country Norelius has followed with keen interest the progress of the Swedish Lutheran Church and has collected material for Swedish-American history. Possessing an intimate knowledge of the church and a capable pen, Norelius was elected historian of the Augustana Synod, and the result of his work as such is a compendious volume, entitled, "De svenska luterska församlingarnes och svenskarnes historia i Amerika." This volume, issued in



Rev. Eric Norelius

1890, gives a very complete account of Swedish settlement in the West up to 1860 and of the activities of the Swedish-Americans, especially the Lutherans, during this formative period. One or more additional volumes of this valuable work are awaited.

From the pen of Norelius have issued a number of published works, including "Salems Sånger" (1859), "Handbok för söndagsskolan" (1865), "Evangelisk-Lutherska Augustanasynoden i Nord-Amerika och dess mission" (1870).

Alfred Heyne

Alfred Heyne, a member of the "Hemlandet" staff of editors for two years, up to August, 1883, excelled as a music and art critic. He was connected with "Öresunds-Posten" of Helsingborg both before and after the period spent in Chicago. His pen was fluent

in prose and verse alike. Heyne was born in Skane, Sweden, in 1855 and died there in 1889.

Aron Edstrom

Aron Edstrom has held a position as associate editor of "Hemlandet" since May, 1883, with the exception of eight months spent in editing "Nordens Medborgare" at Manistee, Mich. Prior to his engagement in Chicago he was editor of "Skaffaren" of St. Paul from 1880. Edström is an interesting narrator of personal experiences, but has done little original literary work. A few sketches by him have appeared, however, in "Hemlandet," "Prärieblomman" and elsewhere.

Gustaf Sjöström

Gustaf Sjöström attained wide popularity in the early '90s through a series of humorous articles in "Hemlandet," headed "Bref fran Jan Olson" and subsequently published in book form under the title, "Jan Olsons Äfventyr." By critics Sjöström is given front rank among Swedish-American writers. He wrote in a characteristic style, all his own, and, whether in humorous or sober vein, he spoke in simple and homely fashion, his products abounding in apt comment and wholesome homespun philosophy.

Sjöström came to America in 1890, equipped with a university education obtained at Upsala, Sweden. In an editorial capacity he was in turn connected with "Hemlandet," "Tribunen," "Vart Land" of Jamestown, N. Y., and "Österns Härold" of Brooklyn. Abandoning journalism, he took up the study of theology and was ordained to the ministry of the Episcopal Church. For a time he was in charge of a Swedish Episcopal church in Chicago, then left for Sweden, where he entered the service of the State Church.

Sjöström was a fluent versifier and a successful humorous lecturer, touring the country in 1897 in the latter capacity.

Anders Schön

Anders Schön was educated for the teacher's vocation in Sweden and taught public school for four years, subsequently serving for a year and a half on the police force of Stockholm. He came to this country in 1889. In the fall of 1891, with some prior experience as a newspaper correspondent, he was engaged on the staff of "Hemlandet" in the editorial position he still holds. Few men have served the Swedish press in the United States more ably and with greater energy than has Mr. Schön. His pen is capable of any literary task, except versification, and alongside of practical journalism he has for years pursued

literary and historical studies, the latter bearing on the Swedish colonial periods in America in the seventeenth and nineteenth centuries. He has edited eight editions of the literary annual "Prärieblomman," also "Bilder fran Gamla Hemlandet," and was the translator of "Coin's Financial School" and "The Cross and the Crescent."



Anders Schön

In the present historical work Mr. Schön has collaborated on the first eight chapters.

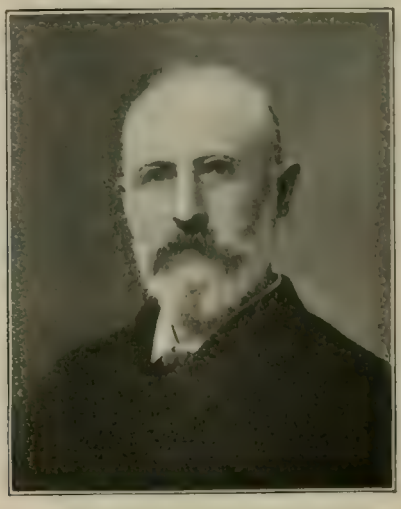
Svenska Republikanen

In the year 1856 the leaders of the Bishop Hill colony added a newspaper to their other numerous enterprises. At Galva a printing office was fitted up, from which was issued a weekly paper called "Svenska Republikanen," the full title being "Den Svenska Republikanen i Norra Amerika," edited by S. Cronsioe. In this same shop Andrew Chaiser and Eric Berglund (Bergland), two well-known Swedish-Americans, began their careers, as "printer's devils." "Svenska Republikanen" was the first competitor of "Gamla och Nya Hemlandet" in the Swedish newspaper field. It was, as the name indicates, Republican in politics, and in church matters it was, at least at the outset, as non-partisan as could be expected of a paper dependent upon a religious colony for its chief support. The first issue was dated July 4th, 1856. The paper proved fairly prosperous for a time, but on being turned over to Cronsioe, as his private property, it lost its main backing and, after a short struggle for existence, ceased publication. Prior thereto, in 1857, it was removed to Chicago, where it was issued until

July, 1858. According to C. F. Peterson, it was the first Swedish newspaper published in this city. Toward the last, the paper seems to have deviated from its course as a non-partisan in church matters, for we have it from the same authority that it "succumbed in the fight with the Lutheran Church," while Cronsioe, the editor and publisher, explained, that publication ceased because the enterprise "did not yield and income proportionate to the toil and labor expended on it."

Swedish Baptist Papers. Nya Wecko-Posten

"Frihetsvännen," published in Galesburg from January, 1859, to March, 1861, was a fortnightly paper, started by a company of Swed-



Rev. Eric Wingren

ish Baptists. The publishers were a number of adherents of that denomination, including L. Ahnberg, Jonas Peterson and Louis Peterson. It was edited in turn by Peterson, Wilborg and Arosenius. During the latter part of its existence it was issued weekly. The paper suspended publication for lack of paying subscribers. "Frihetsvännen" was not classed as a denominational organ, but in 1860 a paper called "Evangelisten" was started in the same city as the recognized mouthpiece of the Baptists. Its span of life was about one year. This was an almost exact reproduction of a paper of the same name, published in Stockholm, Sweden, by Rev. Anders Wiberg. L. Ahnberg was business manager, but the name of the editor is not known. "Evangelisten" was the first Swedish Baptist paper here, followed by "Zions Vakt," in 1873, and "Evangelisk Tidskrift," in 1877, both edited by Dr. J. A. Edgren. The former was shortlived; the latter was turned over in

1880 to Rev. E. Wingren. Before the appearance of Edgren's first paper, an abortive publication, named "Facklan," was published by K. A. Östergren.

After a year, Wingren enlarged "Evangelisk Tidskrift" and changed it from a monthly to a semi-monthly paper. The church had need of a weekly newspaper, and from Jan. 1, 1885, the paper has been published weekly under the new name, "Nya Wecko-Posten," adopted from "Wecko-Posten," the organ of the Baptist church in Sweden. In recent years several minor Baptist papers have been started in Chicago in the interest of missions and the Sunday school. Rev. Erik Wingren came over from Sweden in 1880 on a call from the Second Swedish Baptist Church of Chicago. He preached and assisted Dr. Edgren in teaching and editing his paper, until he began to devote all his attention to the publishing business.

The books published by Rev. Wingren in connection with "Nya Wecko-Posten" are: "Femtio år i romerska kyrkan;" "Skapelsens under;" "Bröderna Alvarez;" "Birmas apostel;" "Elvira eller Evangelii makt:" "Spurgeons lif och verksamhet;" "Spurgeons predikningar," vols. I-II; "Klosterlifvet afslöjadt;" "Det heliga kriget;" "Illustrerad kalender," issued yearly from 1904 to 1909, and "Sånger för Söndagsskolan och hemmet," text and music editions.

Sändebudet

In July, 1862, Rev. Victor Witting, of Rockford, commenced to publish a small church newspaper, named "Sändebudet," which became the official organ of the Swedish Methodists. It was started as a 6-col. 4-page paper, the first issue being dated July 18th. Rev. Witting, as chief editor, was assisted by Revs. N. O. Westergreen and A. J. Anderson. Notwithstanding the loyal support of the laity and clergy, the paper did not prove self-sustaining, and the ministers often had to go down into their own pockets to meet balances. After a year and a half Rev. Albert Ericson, Witting's successor as pastor at Rockford, assumed the editorship, filling the position until Nov., 1864, when the M. E. Book Concern of Cincinnati was induced to take over the publication. The paper was now removed to Chicago and published by Poe and Hitchcock, 66 Washington street, the western branch of the publishing house, the first issue after the removal appearing Dec. 8th. In August, 1863, it was changed from a fortnightly to a weekly paper. In 1865 Rev. Witting again became its editor, and two years later he was succeeded a second time by Rev. Ericson, who edited "Sändebudet" up to Oct., 1871, when the great fire put an end to publication. One year elapsed before the paper was resurrected. It appeared again on Oct. 14, 1872, in a new dress, with Rev. N. O. Westergreen as editor.

Dr. William Henschen assumed editorial charge in September, 1875, remaining in the editorial chair until 1882, when Rev. Witting for the third time took the position. Dissatisfaction with the manner in which the American concern managed the paper prompted the organization in September, 1888, of the Swedish M. E. Book Concern in Chicago, with a view to put the publication under Swedish control. Their request that the paper be turned over to them was at first refused, but when, three months after, the new concern started a competitive paper, named "Väktaren," the Americans yielded the control to the Swedes, and the new paper was merged with "Sändebudet," which has since remained the official organ of the Swedish Methodists, under the control of the General Conference. Since 1889 Dr.



Dr. William Henschen

Henschen has been in editorial charge, except for the interval from June, 1898, to October, 1902, when Rev. H. K. Elmström occupied the editorial chair.

In connection with the office of "Sändebudet" is maintained the Swedish M. E. Book Concern, which carries on a general publishing business for the church. Besides "Sändebudet," two periodicals are published, viz., "Epworth-Klockan," a semi-monthly paper for the Epworth League, and "Söndagsskolbaneret," a monthly Sunday school paper. From a long list of books published by this house we quote the titles of some of the more noteworthy, such as: "Svenska Metodismen i Amerika," a history by Rev. C. G. Wallenius et al.; "Vinterrosor," a Christmas annual published every year from 1903 on; "Biblisk Historia," by Dr. William Henschen; "Bilder fran Bibel-Länder," by J. E. Hillberg; "Where the Mississippi Flows," by Mrs. Emma Shogren-Farman; "Metodistkyrkans Nya Psalmbok" and "Herdestämman," a

songbook, each of which is published in both text and music editions. Their other publications are chiefly Sunday school booklets.

Svenska Amerikanaren, I.

Up to 1866 no fruitful attempt had been made to start a Swedish-American newspaper that was not the organ of some church denomination. "Skandinaven," started in New York City in 1851, aimed to be an independent secular journal, but lacking both vitality and a definite tendency, it died the following year. For a long time after this venture those who were without church connections, either by choice or because membership in secret societies disqualified them, waited in vain for the launching of an independent and entirely secular newspaper in the Swedish language. Finally, on April 16, 1866, a number of men in Chicago and elsewhere in Illinois issued a circular, inviting their countrymen to join in forming a stock company for the purpose of publishing a weekly newspaper that would champion more liberal ideas in opposition to the intolerance of the church element at that period. Those who issued the call and organized the stock company were: John A. Nelson, president; N. E. Nelson, vice president; P. J. Hussander, treasurer; P. L. Hawkinson, secretary; Charles J. Strömberg, P. L. Eastman, C. F. Billing, F. T. Engström, P. M. Almini, all of Chicago; John Peterson, Galesburg; A. A. Schenlund, Princeton, and Olof Johnson, Galva. Behind the enterprise and in strong sympathy with it stood two well-known Chicago Swedes, Consul Charles J. Sundell and Captain Oscar G. Lange. The business was incorporated under the name of The Swedish-American Publishing Company.

At this time most Swedish-Americans possessed of more than a common school education were affiliated with the churches and denominational schools as ministers and teachers, making it difficult to secure, first, a suitable editor, and second, the support of the more intelligent class of readers. Herman Roos af Hjelmsäter, a young Swedish nobleman, employed in the Chicago office of the Inman Line, was slated for the position of editor, he being a forceful, sometimes even a virulent and vitriolic writer, who had had prior experience as a contributor to some of the daily papers in Stockholm. Yet his irregular habits counted against him so that the company decided on another man for the position. This was Hans Mattson, then a young lawyer in Minnesota. He was editor of the new paper, styled "Svenska Amerikanaren," from its first day, Sept. 8, 1866, to Feb. 6, 1867. Mattson was little more than nominal editor, but he commanded respect, as did also his associates. Many liberal-minded Swedish-Americans gladly supported the new weekly, which at once became a formidable opponent of "Hemlandet," the mouthpiece of the Augustana

Synod. There was continual warfare between the two papers, the principal casus belli being the secret societies. Roos, who was the virtual editor from the start and also nominal head of the editorial staff from February, 1867, to December, 1869, conducted an aggressive campaign in defense of the fraternities until his return to Sweden. His place was then filled by Peter A. Sundelius, who from July, 1868, to December, 1869, had been editor of the rival newspaper, "Hemlandet." Sundelius, however, hewed closely to the line marked out by his predecessor. His was a caustic style, and despite his impaired health he was a forceful and able journalist whose greatest delight was to fight his opponents, mostly politicians holding views different from his own. He was editor during the year 1870 and again from September, 1871, to April, 1873, when the company sold out to Charles J. Stenquist, a jeweler, who changed the name of the paper to "Nya Svenska Amerikanaren." In the interregnum from January to August, 1871, the paper was edited by A. W. Schalin.

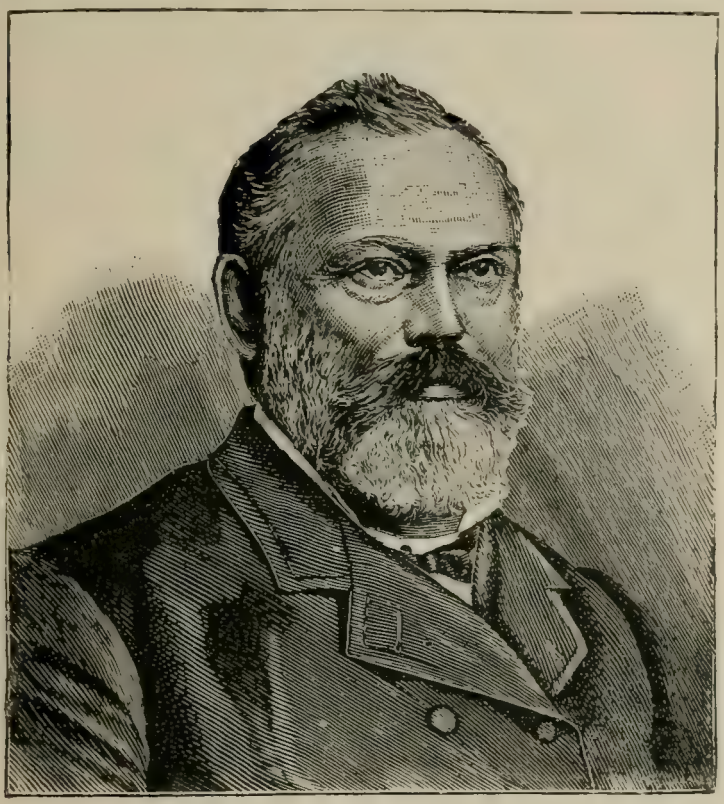
In the Chicago fire the office and composing room of "Svenska Amerikanaren" were destroyed. Ten weeks later the almost ruined company resumed publication, issuing a smaller sheet, which led a struggling existence and was sold to Mr. Stenquist. He was publisher and sole proprietor until September, 1877, when he disposed of the paper to Hans Mattson, who shortly afterward acquired stock in the Swedish Publishing Company, transferred the paper to that company, and on the ruins of "Nya Svenska Amerikanaren" and "Nya Verlden," of Chicago, and "Skandia," of Moline, a new weekly by the name of "Svenska Tribunen" was built up.

"Nya Svenska Amerikanaren" was edited first by Magnus Elmblad, a poet and fluent, imaginative writer, who had formerly been assistant on "Hemlandet" and co-editor of "Skandia" of Moline and "Nya Verlden" of Chicago. He was succeeded by Gottfried Cronwall and he in turn by A. L. Gyllenhaal, in April, 1874. The following September Herman Roos upon his return from Sweden was appointed co-editor with Gyllenhaal. The two, assisted by Elmblad, edited the paper up to the time of its sale to Hans Mattson.

Hans Mattson

Except for a brief residence in Moline shortly after immigrating, and his aforesaid connection with the first "Svenska Amerikanaren" and later with "Svenska Tribunen," Col. Hans Mattson was a Minnesota man and attained great prominence in that state. He was born in Önnestad, Skåne, Dec. 23, 1832, educated at Kristianstad and was in the Swedish military service for a year and a half. Having emigrated from Sweden in 1851, he came West the year following and worked as a

common laborer in and about Galesburg, Moline and neighboring places. In August, 1853, he headed a party of newcomers who went to Minnesota to pick out suitable land for a Swedish settlement. They chose a tract in Goodhue county, and Mattson with two others built the first dwelling in the Vasa settlement, of which he became the founder. Mattson tried farming and business, then studied law and



Hans Mattson

was admitted to the bar, but abandoned legal practice for the office of auditor of Goodhue county. At the outbreak of the Civil War Mattson organized a Scandinavian company which took the field in November, 1861. In April, 1863, Mattson was promoted to the rank of colonel. He was editor of "Amerikanaren" 1866-67; the latter year he became secretary of the Immigration Bureau of Minnesota, was elected Secretary of State in 1869, removed with his family to Sweden before the term expired and remained there as representative of the Northern Pacific Railway until 1876. From January, 1877, to May, 1881, he published "Minnesota Stats Tidning," a Swedish weekly,

and aided in the establishment of "Svenska Tribunen" in Chicago in 1877, being a director of the publishing company until 1879. In June, 1881, Mattson was appointed United States Consul General for India by President Garfield and served in that capacity at Calcutta for about two years, afterwards accepting a position as manager of a land company in New Mexico. He was again elected Secretary of State in Minnesota in 1887 and served four years. The same year he started a bank in Minneapolis and two years later established "The North," a newspaper in the English language, devoted to the interests of the Scandinavians. Col. Hans Mattson died March 5, 1893. Two years prior he published his memoirs in two languages, the English edition bearing the title, "The Story of an Emigrant," the Swedish, "Minnen."

Herman Roos

One of the pioneers in Swedish-American journalism was Herman Roos (af Hjelmsäter.) As the scion of a noble family in Sweden, he obtained a university education, and thus prepared he ought to have made a successful career in his native country, but for the fact that in some way, never revealed even to his intimates, he had closed to himself the door of opportunity. He turned up in Chicago shortly after the close of the Civil War, in which he fought. He was one of the unassimilative class of Swedish immigrants who never learn the language of the land or take any real interest in things American, but are content to flock by themselves in little ultra Swedish circles, hardly meriting the name of Swedish-Americans. When Col. Hans Mattson retired from the editorship of "Svenska Amerikanaren," Roos became his successor. Opinions differ as to whether he was a man of more than average talent. He was not a studious man and lacked that interest in the living issues of the day, which, coupled with his undeniable ability to wield the pen, might have made him a journalist of the highest rank. The popularity he attained rested mainly on the attitude the paper assumed versus "Hemlandet." Among the anti-church element this paper, being partly of a religious character, was held to be the organ of ignorance and bigotry. When it trained its guns on the new liberal organ, Roos got a splendid opportunity to pose as the defender of free thought — or, as he put it, the right to your own views, whether right or wrong. In the wordy war that raged between the representatives of the two factions, Roos gained a number of polemical triumphs and came to be looked upon by many as the foremost champion of liberalism among the Swedish people in the West. But the part he played was not natural to him. While he fought for liberalism and human rights in the abstract, he always remained the born aristocrat. In his lowly

editorial chair he had the same high regard for the traditions and prerogatives of the nobility as if he had held a seat in some feudal house of lords. His aristocratic sentiments were skillfully concealed under the cloak of democracy, and it was less from choice than by force of circumstances that he became the spokesman for popular views.

After a few years Roos tired of his editorial duties and returned



Herman Roos

to his old home in Göteborg. His fair editorial salary appears to have been inadequate to the demand made by his habits and appetites. In 1873 he returned, now more than ever enslaved by the drink habit. Securing a position with "Nya Verlden," he did editorial work at intervals between frequent rampages, in which all sense of duty and moral responsibility was drowned in the flowing bowl.

He now worked on "Nya Verlden" and later on the new "Svenska Amerikanaren" for upwards of seven years. To a biographer who met Roos for the last time just before New Year's, 1880, his last words

were, "Do you know, I am tired of life." A few days afterward it was reported that Roos had disappeared. On Jan. 2nd his dead body was found on a railway track within the city, mangled by the wheels of a passing train. Whether his death was accidental or self-inflicted, no one knows. At the funeral of the agnostic, Captain Lange, a brother agnostic, officiated, and no clergyman was present. While tabooing the Christian service, Lange nevertheless felt constrained to use the formula of the Swedish Lutheran Church, but in the following corrupted form: "Of earth thou art come; to earth thou returnest; if there be a God, He shall resurrect thee on the last day."

Herman Roos, although a champion of liberal views, was intolerant with respect to the opinions of others, and was himself without any pronounced beliefs. He was a formidable opponent, whether in a polemical skirmish over personal matters, or a sustained campaign in defense of some general cause. While overestimated by his admirers and underrated by his antagonists, Roos cannot justly be denied a place of prominence among Swedish-American journalists, earned by him as one of the frontier fighters in the struggle for an unbiased press and an untrammeled public opinion.

Peter A. Sundelius

Peter A. Sundelius, one of the veteran Swedish newspaper men in the United States, was born at Uddevalla, Sweden, in 1839 or 1840; studied in Uddevalla and Göteborg; spent several months traveling in Denmark, Germany and Great Britain; crossed the Atlantic in 1864, and at once enlisted in the Union army. The following spring, in the battle of Petersburg, he received a bullet wound from which he did not recover for a year and a half. In the late fall of 1866 he came to Chicago and passed the winter teaching. The next fall he went to Augustana College, at Paxton, where he taught classes for two years while studying theology himself.

In July, 1868, Sundelius entered upon his journalistic career. He was editor of "Hemlandet" from July, 1868, to December, 1869; of the first "Svenska Amerikanaren," its bitter rival, in 1870, and from September, 1871, to April, 1873, and of "Nya Verlden" from February to April, 1871. After four years in the U. S. internal revenue office and seven in the recorder's office, Sundelius, with C. F. Peterson, G. Hjertquist and N. P. Nelson as partners, purchased the second "Svenska Amerikanaren" and was one of its editors up to May, 1888, when he sold his interest to F. A. Lindstrand.

In 1884 Sundelius was elected to the state legislature and served for three terms. His most noted achievement as a legislator was the framing of the compulsory education bill. During his last years Sunde-

lius was employed in the office of the county clerk. He died in Chicago, Feb. 18, 1896.

The bullet which Sundelius received in battle was never removed, but caused him constant discomfort and pain. The acerbity that characterized the products of his pen, which otherwise were models of style and cogency, doubtless was due to the same cause. Sundelius was the



Peter A. Sundelius

first Swedish political writer to master the subject of American politics, local and national.

Magnus Elmblad

Magnus Elmblad was recognized while in the United States as the foremost poet among the Swedish-Americans, others having attained to the same high rank only in later years. Elmblad's authorship, however, was not characteristically Swedish-American. He was

educated in Sweden and there began his career as a writer and poet. He was therefore essentially a product of that country. His writings bear but faint, if any, evidence that the author was impressed with American life and conditions. His poetry touches both extremes of idealism and realism.

Although remembered chiefly as a poet, Elmblad's thirteen years in the United States were devoted mainly to journalism. Coming to Chicago in the fall of 1871, while the fire-swept city was still a charred ruin, he soon obtained employment in the Swedish weekly press and was in its service until 1884. His genius was of the errant type. He



Magnus Elmblad

wrote mostly according to his own whims and fancies, and the poetical contributions were by far his best.

Elmblad was a versatile writer and his pen was phenomenally productive and fluent. In six hours he is said to have composed "Gunnar och Anna," a lengthy epic poem of decided merit. His verse is characterized by ease and flueney of rhyme and rythm, lucidity and beauty of thought and elegance of diction. He was master of the art of translation, a sharp satirist and a highly entertaining commentator of passing events.

Besides some five hundred lyric poems and bits of light verse, Elmblad wrote a number of stories and sketches, a play which was produced on a Chicago scene, five epic poems, "Allan Roini," "Azil-

la," "Kristina Nilsson," "Pehr Thomasson" and the aforementioned "Gunnar and Anna"—the first-named having been awarded a prize by the Swedish Academy. He translated "Brand," by Ibsen, and a number of American poems. A volume of patriotic songs by Elmblad was published in Sweden in 1871; Ibsen's "Brand" and a translation of Kristofer Janson's "Han och Hon" were published the same year. A second volume of verse was published in Sweden in 1887. In this country two books of verse by Elmblad have been published, one in 1875, reprinted in 1890, simultaneously with a second collection.

Magnus Henrik Elmblad was born Sept. 12, 1848, at Herrestad, Smaland, the son of a country parson named P. M. Elmblad, who afterward became lector, or professor, at the Stockholm Gymnasium. He had a college and university education when he came to this country in 1871. Here he was employed first on "Hemlandet," then, in 1873, became associate editor of "Nya Svenska Amerikanaren;" edited "Vårt Nya Hem," published at Kearney, Neb., during the early months of 1877; was subsequently editor of "Skandia" in Moline up to April, 1878, and soon after became associate editor of "Svenska Amerikanaren," a position retained by him until he left for Sweden in 1884. There he was a free lance contributor to various journals and periodicals until his death, April 9, 1888.

Svenska Tribunen

On January 4, 1869, Eric Johnson, son of the founder of the Bishop Hill colony, started a newspaper at Galva, entitled "The Illinois Swede." It was printed in both English and Swedish. The salutatory said in part: "The idea of a weekly journal printed in both languages, devoted to the interests of the 50,000 Swedes residing in Illinois, has been the subject of our thought for a number of years, and now we rejoice that it is to be a reality. The establishment of an organ for the Swedish population of Illinois, printed mainly in the English language, is the forerunner of the true Americanization of this class of our citizens, and to that end will our efforts be directed. We shall strive to make foreign and native born citizens better acquainted. Our adopted country, first and last, is our motto."

At this time Eric Johnson was publishing two other papers, the "Galva Republican" and the "Altona Mirror." Finding that he had undertaken a bigger job than he could well attend to alone, he in July 1869 took in Andrew Chaiser as a partner. Chaiser brought no capital into the business, but he was a practical printer. In August, 1870, the firm was still further strengthened by the addition of C. F. Peterson, whose only capital was his ability as a writer. In November of that year the name of the paper was changed to "Nya Verlden." The pa-

per was now published exclusively in the Swedish language, the two-language hobby of Mr. Johnson having been overruled by his two partners. It was also at their suggestion that the paper was moved to Chicago in January, 1871. In Chicago "Nya Verlden" met with a favorable reception. P. A. Sundelius, a journalist of experience and recognized ability, became associated with Mr. Peterson in the editorial management. Sundelius, by his sharp and caustic pen, got the paper involved in two libel suits for $25,000 each, and the two editors were arrested until released on bonds. Having been involved in expensive law suits through no fault of his own, Johnson decided to sever his connection with "Nya Verlden" and transferred his interest to Andrew Chaiser.

In the matter of policy "Nya Verlden" steered its course between two extremes, viz., "Gamla och Nya Hemlandet," the Lutheran Church paper, on the one side, and "Svenska Amerikanaren," which was anything but friendly to the church, on the other. With the exception of "Sändebudet," the organ of the Methodists, these papers were its only competitors.

After the great fire of 1871, when all the Swedish newspaper offices were destroyed, "Nya Verlden" was removed to Galesburg where it was issued within the week. It was moved back to Chicago in March, 1872. The proprietors remained the same, Mr. Chaiser having charge of the business and Mr. Peterson of the editorial office. In the spring of 1873 Frank A. Anderson, a brother-in-law of Mr. Chaiser, was admitted to partnership, and Herman Roos (af Hjelmsäter), who was formerly associated with Col. Hans Mattson in "Svenska Amerikanaren," became associate editor.

In the early spring of 1876 "Nya Verlden" was turned over to a corporation known as the Swedish Publishing Company, with Frank Anderson as president and Chaiser and Peterson as the other main stockholders. The following year Col. Mattson became a member of the company. He was the first editor of "Svenska Amerikanaren," and the company now purchased this paper from its owner, Mr. Stenquist, and consolidated it with "Nya Verlden" under the new name of "Svenska Tribunen." In 1878 two small papers, "Skandia" of Moline and "Nya Folkets Tidning," were absorbed. The fact that another newspaper has been published ever since under the name of "Svenska Amerikanaren" is explained in this way, that the company neglected to subjoin the old names to the new one by way of protection against infringement of their proprietary rights. The opportunity was quickly grasped by Nils Anderson and Herman Roos, who had started a new paper that same year, and they forthwith changed the name of their publication from "Svenska Posten" to "Svenska Amerikanaren."

In 1880 Col. Mattson sold his stock in "Svenska Tribunen" to Carl Gustaf Linderborg, who thus acquired practically a half interest in the paper, Chaiser retaining the other half. Without breaking with the former views and policies of the paper, Linderborg made dominant the principles of liberalism, religious tolerance and political independence with Republican tendencies. Its political color was rather variegated, for while Republican candidates were generally supported, most of the editorials were written by C. F. Peterson, who was a Greeley man in 1872, continuing independent after that; furthermore, P. P.



Clark and Kinzie streets, where "Tribunen," "Fosterlandet," "Hemlandet" and "Kuriren" once centered, the last two still retaining the location

Svenson, a good writer and an astute Democrat, defended in its columns the Democratic doctrine of state sovereignty.

Linderborg exercised editorial supervision as long as he was connected with the paper. He is said to have combined diplomacy and literary judgment with good business sense, with the result that the paper gained friends and prospered in a higher degree than ever before or after. Among his editorial associates from time to time were Magnus Lunnow, afterwards for many years editor of "Svenska Folkets Tidning," of Minneapolis; Ernst Skarstedt, now well known as an author, poet and essayist; Carl Anton Mellander, who afterward became editor-in-chief; Herman Lennmalm, who later turned to dental surgery; Valdemar Torsell, a capable local news writer, and Ernst Lindblom.

Owing to ill health, Linderborg sold out to his business partner in September, 1890, and retired to private life, having accumulated in ten years of journalism a modest fortune.

In January, 1891, Anders Leonard Gyllenhaal, for seventeen years a member of the editorial staff of "Hemlandet," took the place made vacant by Ernst Lindblom's departure for Sweden. The staff now consisted of Mellander, chief editor, Mannow, Lenmalm and Gyllenhaal, associate editors, besides special correspondents and contributors, such as Jenny Braun, the novelist, and Anderson-Edenberg, in Sweden, and, in this country, Konni Zilliacus, Johan Person and Harald Beckström. Shortly after the World's Fair, Mellander died and was succeeded by Gyllenhaal.

At the end of the century Chaiser passed away and C. F. Peterson was appointed administrator of the estate. This included the management of the newspaper until the plant was sold in August, 1900, to John E. Norling, P. O. Norling and Samuel E. Carlsson. The chief editorship, temporarily assumed by Mr. Peterson, was now entrusted to Ernst W. Olson, former stockholder and editor of "Fosterlandet," with Messrs. Gyllenhaal and P. C. Pearson as his associates. Later, Anders Tofft was added to the staff. Mr. Pearson had been connected with "Fosterlandet" from its inception, most of the time as editor-in-chief, and Mr. Tofft had previously worked on Swedish newspapers in Minnesota. In the autumn of 1901 Mr. Norling became sole proprietor of "Svenska Tribunen," and continued as its publisher until May, 1905, when the paper was sold to C. F. Erikson, late advertising manager of "Svenska Nyheter." One year later "Svenska Tribunen" was consolidated with "Svenska Nyheter," a weekly published by Gus Broberg. The combination was named "Svenska Tribunen-Nyheter." After a few months Mr. Broberg withdrew from the partnership, having sold his half interest to Mr. Erikson.

Mr. Norling had kept the paper Republican, even at the sacrifice of his personal views, which for a number of years had been in sympathy with the democracy, and was entirely in accord with the editors in this matter. His successor, who held radical views, attempted to make a gradual change in its politics, but had no success, so long as either Mr. Olson or Mr. Gyllenhaal remained as editorial writers. Their positions on the staff were reversed shortly after the change in ownership, Mr. Gyllenhaal being again made editor-in-chief. His physical powers had been undermined by an illness of several years' duration, and on October 17, 1905, he succumbed to heart disease. One month later Mr. Olson left his position. With temporary assistants Mr. Tofft edited the paper until the following spring, when Carl G. Norman, editor of "Svea," at Worcester, Mass., was engaged.

Among the premium books employed to swell the circulation of "Svenska Tribunen" are found the following works, of which the publishers put out their own editions: "Bibliotek för allmänbildning;" "Från var Konstverld;" "Nittonde Århundradet," by O. H. Dumrath, three volumes in two; "Kunskapernas Skattkammare" by Trumbull White, Swedish edition revised and augmented, and a book of views of Sweden.

Eric Johnson

Of Swedish-American newspaper men, few, if any, have had so varied a career as Captain Eric Johnson. With him publishing has been a sort of intermittent fever, he having been sole or joint proprietor of no less than half a score of newspapers at different periods. In the intervals he has been engaged in various private pursuits or in public life.

The son of the founder of the religious community of Bishop Hill, Eric Johnson was born in Vestmanland, Sweden, July 15, 1838, eight years before the beginning of the exodus of his father's adherents, the Erik Janssonists, to the United States. The family left Sweden in January, 1846, going via Christiania, Copenhagen, Kiel, Hamburg, Hull and Liverpool, to New York, where they arrived in the early spring and remained several months before proceeding to Victoria, Ill. The first houses in Bishop Hill completed, the family located there in September. The boy's early schooling was limited to the instruction received from S. B. Randall, who taught in the colony in 1854.

When the Bishop Hill colony corporation was dissolved in 1861, Eric Johnson began to cultivate the eleven acres of land allotted to him, together with some rented land. On Sept. 16th of the same year he enlisted in the volunteer army, and was chosen lieutenant at the organization of Company D, 57th Ill. Regiment. After the battle of Shiloh he was promoted captain of the company, which was composed entirely of Swedes. During the siege of Corinth in the summer of 1862 Captain Johnson was taken sick with typhoid fever and at the advice of the army surgeon he resigned and returned North. In 1864 he was induced by the Republican leaders at Galva to become editor and publisher of the Galva "Union." The venture was new to him and a year of that work was enough, but in 1868 he was again attracted to the newspaper field, assuming the editorship of the Altona "Mirror." After the election he became owner of the Galva "Union," which name was changed to "Republican." His connection with the "Illinois Swede" and "Nya Verlden" has been shown.

In January, 1871, Johnson was made journal clerk in the House of Representatives at Springfield, serving during the regular session and

also the called session just following the Chicago fire and the adjourned session early in 1872. The year after, he engaged in mercantile and land business at White City, Kans., but failed after three years, owing to drought and grasshoppers, and returned to Illinois, starting in business anew at Nekoma, as a hardware and lumber dealer.

In 1879 he was engaged in gathering material for "Svenskarne i Illinois"—a book published by him and C. F. Peterson. The same year, in partnership with Joseph E. Osborn, Johnson began publishing "The Citizen," a weekly paper at Galva and later at Moline, but sold his interest to his partner in 1882, following a disagreement as to the political policy of the paper. Next Captain Johnson held a position in the war department at Washington, resigning which he became editor of "The Republican" at Stromsburg, Neb., for one year, and subsequently was in the newspaper business at Holdrege, Neb., until 1891. While there he was elected to the General Assembly in 1888, being the only Independent in that legislature. In 1891 he was made chief clerk of the House of Representatives and was reelected unanimously two years later.

After having been operating in Texas lands for a time, Captain Johnson in 1896 became the editor of the "Saunders County New Era," established 1890 at Wahoo, Neb., as a Populist paper. With the subsidence of that movement the paper lost prestige, turned Republican and was continued by Capt. Johnson until the spring of 1906, when he suspended publication of the paper and sold the plant. His next, and last, venture in journalism was "The Viking," a Swedish-American monthly in the English language, published at Fremont, Neb., from July, 1906, to August, 1907, when lack of support prompted its discontinuance. Capt. Johnson in October, 1907, removed to Clearwater, Cal., his present place of residence.

Mr. Johnson was married Jan. 31, 1863, to Mary Octavia Troil, who died in 1890. Of their eight children three are living, viz., Axel T., of St. Louis, Julia C., of Omaha, and Ernest G., publisher of the "Lindsay (Neb.) Opinion." A son, Sixtus Erik, died in the Spanish-American War. On July 15, 1902, Mr. Johnson married his second wife, Georgia A. Tillinghast, who has aided him in his recent editorial work.

Andrew Chaiser

Andrew Chaiser had a pecuniary interest in "The Illinois Swede—Nya Verlden—Svenska Tribunen" from 1869 and was its sole owner from 1890 until his death in 1899. Chaiser was born in Bälinge parish, Upland, Sweden, Aug. 5, 1841. His father, who had served in the Upland Dragoons, emigrated in 1850 and joined the Erik Jansson colony at Bishop Hill. He worked for three years, 1855-58, in the

colony's newspaper office at Galva, and in 1869 associated himself with Captain Eric Johnson in publishing the "Illinois Swede" at that place. After the paper was removed to Chicago and converted into the all-Swedish weekly "Nya Verlden," Chaiser was one of the several men who took the paper through the financial crisis in the seventies. In the eighties he and Linderborg as joint proprietors of the paper, now "Svenska Tribunen," pushed it ahead until it outdistanced all its competitors. After Chaiser had become sole owner in 1890 he soon had to pilot the enterprise through the financial straits of 1893 and follow-



Andrew Chaiser

ing years. In this he succeeded, but in the last few years before his death the enterprise seems to have suffered through lack of vigilance in the management. Mr. Chaiser was a public-spirited man and had the interests of his countrymen at heart. The credit for the erection of the Linné monument in Lincoln Park, Chicago, is due in a large measure to his energetic work in securing the needed funds. His death occurred March 31, 1899.

Carl Fredrik Peterson

Carl Fredrik Peterson was born at Fittja, Södermanland, Sweden, April 16, 1843. His parents were poor and could afford him but little schooling. The boy was sent to relatives in Falun at an early age, and there worked as a dyer's apprentice. As a young man of eighteen he emigrated to the United States. Intending to fight for the liberation of the slaves, the newcomer enlisted, but was rejected on account of

nearsightedness after having had but a taste of camp life. He then joined the crew on a Mississippi steamer plying between St. Louis and New Orleans. After that he worked successively as section hand on the railroad, wood-cutter, farm laborer and factory hand. His desire for knowledge caused him to improve every opportunity to repair the defects in his education.

In January, 1870, he became editor of "Minnesota Tidning" at St. Paul, Minn. With that he entered upon the journalistic and literary career which he subsequently followed through life. He left this paper in May of the same year and in August assumed the editorship of "The Illinois Swede," published at Galva, Ill. Peterson remained with the paper through various changes until 1880, as editor-in-chief,



Carl Fredrik Peterson

and continued another four years as associate editor. Then he went over to "Svenska Amerikanaren" and was until 1888 editor and part owner of that paper. After that he edited "Svea," a newspaper which ceased publication in 1889. For a short period in 1890-91 a Swedish daily newspaper was published in Chicago, with Mr. Peterson at the head of the editorial department. When this venture failed he devoted himself for a number of years to independent literary work, producing several volumes on historical, political and kindred topics. As administrator of the estate of his old friend and partner, Andrew Chaiser, Peterson was in 1899 called back to the field of journalism and for a time directed both the business and the editorial policy of the paper. In the early part of the year 1901 he edited "National-Tidningen." Its existence was cut short in April, when Mr. Peterson was stricken with an illness that ended his life June 11th following.

Up to 1885 Peterson was a Republican, with independent tendencies. That year he embraced the tenets of the Democratic party, and later, when populism was at its flood-tide, accepted its political doc-

trines, and he in turn championed these various views with a vigor that seemed born of long established conviction. Never a strong partisan, he could do this without much readjustment of his own position. It is admitted that his political articles were characterized by a depth and thoroughness seldom if ever found in the work of other Swedish-American journalists.

Being of a speculative bend, Peterson gave a great deal of thought to the higher problems of this and the future life, and his views were freely expressed in the press and on the platform. A biographer has said of him that he was "by far a greater poet than thinker, and a greater orator than poet"—an estimate probably based on the fact that his mind was not free from bias and the trammels of various -isms, including spiritualism, with all its accessories of slate-writing, materialization, etc. Astrology was a real science to his mind and he faithfully believed in it. As a public speaker and a poet, on the other hand, he moved in a freer atmosphere, bounded only by the limitations of his fertile brain and a vivid imagination. Peterson handled English with almost as great fluency as his mother tongue, and translated a large number of the best Swedish poems into English.

The published works of C. F. Peterson are: "Svenskarne i Illinois," edited in collaboration with Eric Johnson; "Förenta Staternas Historia," which has been translated into Norwegian and Finnish and used as a text-book in schools; "Republiken och dess Institutioner;" "Amerikanska Vältalare;" "Kärlek och Pligt," a novel; "Lärobok i Geografi;" "Ett Hundra År," a recapitulation of the nineteenth century; "Politisk Handbok;" "Sverige i Amerika," besides contributions to Swedish periodicals and magazines. Among his unpublished works may be mentioned a "History of Sweden" in the English language; about one hundred Swedish poems translated into English; a number of original essays and translations on philosophical, political and economic questions; a work on the various doctrines and views on the future life; a collection of Swedish-American short stories; lectures on religio-philosophical subjects; a work on the occult phase of science, and the first chapters of a novel dealing with Swedish-American labor conditions.

Self-taught as he was, Peterson attained a remarkably high intellectual development and his name will be written large in the annals of his fellow countrymen. Yet, with a better start, and under more favorable conditions, his unusual talents ought to have made him still more noted and influential.

Carl Gustaf Linderborg

Carl Gustaf Linderborg, who directed the policy of "Tribunen" from 1880 to 1890, when he sold his interest and retired, was a newspaper man of extraordinary ability. True, he wrote very little, if anything, for the paper, but he knew so well wherewith to fill its columns, that under his regime "Tribunen" attained phenomenal financial success, purely on the strength of its high standard. He chose to rely on the merit of the paper alone, scorning to increase its revenues by means of the questionable and dishonest advertisements only too common to the press. If his paper was open to criticism it was for over-cautiousness. Far from fearless and outspoken, it was extremely guarded in tone, lest any reader should take offense. This policy, however,



Carl Gustaf Linderborg

proved benevolent in the main, and Linderborg is given credit for greater ability than any other Swedish-American publisher in increasing the circulation and profits of his paper without sacrificing its reputation.

Linderborg was born March 26, 1844, in Skellefteå, Sweden. Having gone through college, he taught in Sweden publicly and privately for three years and spent one year at the University of Helsingfors, Finland. He came over to this country in 1867, and taught at Augustana College, in Paxton, Ill., and at an academy in Hillsboro. After two years he engaged in business and in 1871 became advertising solicitor and assistant editor of "Hemlandet." He was a member of the Illinois legislature in 1874, and in 1880 purchased a half interest in "Svenska Tribunen." After 1890 Linderborg lived in retirement in Chicago, until his death on July 10, 1901. While with "Hemlandet," he translated William Matthew's "Getting On in the World," the Swedish version of which has been published in several editions, entitled "På lifvets vägfjobana." This and other works he rendered into Swedish showed him to be an excellent translator.

Jacob Valdemar Torsell

Jacob Valdemar Torsell was added to the editorial force of "Svenska Tribunen" shortly after his removal to Chicago from the East in 1882 and served until his death, which occurred Jan. 2, 1900. He ranks with the foremost journalists employed on this or any other Swedish newspaper in this country. He was a wit and satirist, capable of dealing the most stinging blows with his rhetorical lash. As a critic he was keen, unrelenting and sometimes unjust. A skillful translator, he



Jacob Valdemar Torsell

turned into Swedish a number of English novels, published serially in his paper.

Torsell was born in Stockholm Nov. 20, 1849. In addition to a general education, he took a thorough course in music, but engaged in business on reaching mature years. In 1870 he emigrated to New England. He lived principally in Boston and Worcester, earning his living as music teacher, bookkeeper and otherwise. For a couple of months in 1875 he edited an ephemeral Swedish newspaper named "Fäderneslandet."

Johan Peter Swenson

Johan Peter Swenson was one of the editors of "Svenska Tribunen" for two years, 1885-87. For several years prior he had been a regular contributor to "Svenska-Amerikanaren" while living in Bos-

ton. In 1876–77 he lived for a time in Chicago. He then wrote over the name of Carl Johan Stenquist, the publisher, several polemical articles, reputed to have been masterpieces of journalistic insolence. Swenson made a fair translation of Longfellow's "Evangeline" and was the author of a published treatise on the jury system. He wrote verse of a mediocre sort. Swenson was born in 1818 and was king's bailiff (länsman) in Redväg county before emigrating to Boston in 1865.

Carl Anton Mellander

Carl Anton Mellander began his journalistic career in Chicago as editor of "Fäderneslandet," published here in 1878-79. He joined



Carl Anton Mellander

the editorial force of "Tribunen" in 1880, remaining with the paper until his death Jan 9, 1899. Mellander was principally a news editor and did much to sustain "Tribunen's" enviable reputation as the newsiest of the Swedish-American papers. Mellander was born in Göteborg on Dec. 5, 1849, and educated at a college in Malmö and at the Lund University. He came to America in 1873.

Anders Leonard Gyllenhaal

Anders Leonard Gyllenhaal was connected with the Swedish-American press of Chicago for about thirty-one years. In April, 1874, he was engaged on the staff of "Nya Svenska Amerikanaren." The

following October, when that paper changed from Republican to Democratic, Gyllenhaal, who was a staunch Republican, resigned and at once was added to the editorial force of "Hemlandet." On Jan. 1, 1891, he joined the staff of "Svenska Tribunen" and remained with that paper until his death, which occurred Oct. 17, 1905. Gyllenhaal pursued no independent authorship, limiting himself entirely to the routine of the newspaper office, editing the news, writing editorials and compiling and assorting the miscellaneous contents of the paper. He was a model in his way, prompt, methodical and faithful in his work



Anders Leonard Gyllenhaal

to the highest degree. Since his entry into journalism, his life was rather uneventful.

He was born July 1, 1842, in Vestmanland, Sweden. After preliminary studies at the elementary school in Östersund he entered Upsala University, taking the bachelor's degree in 1860. He went to sea for two years, then returned to the university for post-graduate work, but was prevented by lack of funds from completing the course. In 1866 he came to this country and for several years engaged in a variety of occupations. He was in the employ of the Western News Company in Chicago for five years just prior to going into journalism. Gyllenhaal came of noble Swedish stock. He was married in 1880 and with his family lived in a New Church settlement at Glen View, he himself being a firm believer in the teachings of Swedenborg.

Konni Zilliacus

Konni Zilliacus, associate editor of "Tribunen" in 1889—90 and of "Kuriren" in 1892, while in Chicago and afterward, wrote a good

deal of fiction and several historical and descriptive works. In 1891 he published a book of general information for immigrants, entitled "Amerika," the following year a collection of emigrant stories, "Utvandrarehistorier," which was published in Helsingfors, while an illustrated book, descriptive of Chicago, was put out in this city. His most important work, however, was a book of a thousand pages on the United States, historical, descriptive and pictorial, entitled "Amerikas Förenta Stater." This was published in New York City. Zilliacus, who was a native of Finland, had traveled extensively and gave interesting accounts of his journeys in many lands. He returned to Finland, where in recent years several books by him have been published, including "Nya utvandrarehistorier" and "Det revolutionära Ryssland."

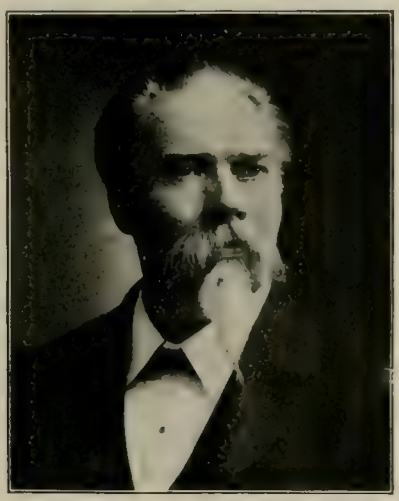
Svenska Amerikanaren, II.

When "Svenska Amerikanaren" was purchased by Hans Mattson and absorbed by "Svenska Tribunen," the old name was adopted in October, 1877, by Nels Anderson and Herman Roos for a new weekly started by them under the name of "Svenska Posten." Anderson was at the time Scandinavian clerk in the Inman Line office. It may be mentioned in passing that a single issue of a Swedish newspaper named in English "The Swedish-American," is said to have been published Aug. 21, 1875, but who the editors and publishers were has not been ascertained. Herman Roos was at first sole editor of Nels Anderson's paper. He and Elmblad were joint editors from June, 1878, to Jan. 2, 1880, when Roos met his death under the wheels of a railway train. Elmblad continued as editor until June, 1884, when he left for his native country. His associates were: Ernst Skarstedt, 1880-84, Gustaf Wicklund, 1882-4, Jakob Bonggren, from 1882, and O. A. Linder, 1883-4. On Sept. 1, 1884, Anderson sold out to P. A. Sundelius, N. P. Nelson of Salina, Kansas, and Gabriel Hjertquist, foreman of the composing room of "Svenska Tribunen." The firm was styled the Swedish-American Printing Company. In October, 1884, C. F. Peterson, one of the editors of "Svenska Tribunen," joined the company. From that time till 1888 the editors were Sundelius, Peterson and Bonggren. In April, 1886, Hjertquist sold his stock to A. E. G. Wingard, then advertising agent of the paper, and on May 3, 1888, Mr. Sundelius, impelled by ill health, sold out to Frans A. Lindstrand, a watchmaker and jeweler, and well known in fraternal society circles, who soon after took over the stock owned by C. F. Peterson and N. P. Nelson and thus became three-fourths owner of the paper.

Frans Albin Lindstrand

In assuming control Mr. Lindstrand determined to make "Svenska Amerikanaren" a popular paper, non-partisan, liberal, tolerant. It then had about 3,000 paying subscribers and a debt of $16,500. It was apparent that it required strong pushing to put the enterprise on its legs, financially, but this the new proprietor did, and soon made good his determination to make the paper a financial success.

He retained Mr. Bonggren as editor, and soon after added to the staff Ninian Waerner, formerly associate editor of "Kurre," a comic paper, which was the forerunner of "Svenska Kuriren." Waerner, who was a poet and humorist, rather than a journalist, remained until



Frans A. Lindstrand

Oct. 1, 1889, when he assumed the editorship of "Svenska Korrespondenten" in Denver, Colo. Mr. Linder was re-engaged on the paper in 1892. Another man engaged was Edwin Björkman, a capable writer, who subsequently became editor of "Minnesota-Posten," at Saint Paul, and then in turn reporter and writer on daily newspapers in that city and in New York.

Mr. Lindstrand himself, although unschooled, took up the pen and began to contribute profusely to the columns of his paper. Possessing a goodly fund of personal experience, an inexhaustible vein of popular humor and a firm determination to "make good," his writings struck a responsive chord. His series of articles under the caption, "Bref från Onkel Ola," was continued for almost twenty years, making him extremely popular with the readers of the paper. In wide circles, in fact, Mr. Lindstrand is hardly known by any other than his

pen name, "Onkel Ola." After twenty years Lindstrand withdrew from journalism, his paper being purchased in February, 1908, by F. A. Larson, a young business man.

The first "Svenska Amerikanaren" was founded as a non-sectarian paper intended as the mouthpiece of those Swedish-Americans who did not belong to the churches or, if they did, were liberal-minded and favored free discussion of all questions, including religious ones. Not only because its policy was condemned by the clergy, but owing still more to the fact that its earliest editors, Roos and Elmblad, had been too abusive in their antagonism, while personally they were not as strict and sober as might be expected of men intent on improving the teachings and morals of the church, a certain odium theologicum had clung to the name from the first. Those who purchased the second paper of that name in 1884 did what they could to eradicate this antipathy by moderating the tone of the paper and adopting a policy of fairness and tolerance toward all. This policy was strictly adhered to by Mr. Lindstrand and his staff of editors, so that now the old prejudice from the side of the church people toward "Svenska Amerikanaren" is practically a thing of the past.

"Svenska Amerikanaren" has been most prolific in the production of books for premium purposes. While Mr. Lindstrand was at the head of the paper, he published reprints and original works, as follows: "Verldshistoria," by Ernst Wallis, vols. I-III; Rosander's "Den Kunskapsrike Skolmästaren;" "Fältskärns Berättelser," by Z. Topelius, vols. I-II; "I öster- och vesterland," by F. A. Lindstrand; "Pennteckningar och reseskildringar af Onkel Ola;" "Kunskap för alla," vols. I-IV; O. Sjögren's "Karl XII och hans män;" "Kriget med Spanien. Frithiofs Saga. Fänrik Ståls Sägner," and "Ur det fördoldas verld."

In 1896 Mr. Lindstrand started a comic weekly paper named "Broder Lustig." In November of that year, it was replaced by an illustrated literary weekly, "Iduna," which ran until February, 1899.

Ernst Skarstedt

Ernst Skarstedt, in June, 1880, became the associate of Magnus Elmblad as editor of "Svenska Amerikanaren." In 1884 he was employed by Engberg and Holmberg as editor and proof-reader; shortly thereafter he took a position with "Svenska Tribunen" and early in 1885 left for the Pacific coast, where he has since resided in various localities. From 1891 to 1896 he was editor and part owner of "Vestkusten" of San Francisco. He then went to farming, but did not abandon literary work on that account. Numberless newspaper articles by him have appeared all along, and he has published a number of larger or smaller books on a variety of subjects, namely: "Oregon and

Washington," historical and descriptive of the two states; "Svensk-Amerikanska poeter;" a collection of poems by Magnus Elmblad; "Enskilda skrifter of A. A. Swärd;" "Rosor och törnen," a collection of short stories, translated and revised; "Fran vilda vestern," and "Den gamle smeden," stories; "Vara pennfäktare," a biographical work on Swedish-American writers, and most recently an illustrated volume entitled "Washington och dess svenska befolkning." Skarstedt is a poet of recognized merit, and a collection of verse by him appeared in book form in 1907. He is held to be an eminent critic, but disclaims that title. Be this as it may, he has played an important part in the



Ernst Skarstedt

matter of calling attention to and encouraging writers, thereby rendering great service to the young Swedish-American literature.

Ernst Teofil Skarstedt was born in Solberga, Bohusläu, Sweden, April 14, 1857; obtained a college education in Lund where his father became professor of theology in 1865; was a sailor in 1875, visiting England and the arctic regions, and studied for a short time at the Technical High School of Stockholm before emigrating in December, 1878. During his first year in the United States he worked at farming, carpentry, etc., and then, in partnership with one E. Lundquist, published "Kansas Stats-Tidning" at Lindsborg for three months, in 1879-80. From his childhood Skarstedt had a penchant for writing, having composed little sermons at seven and essays and sketches on nature at nine.

Skarstedt is a man of peculiar views and habits. He scorns conventionality, etiquette and luxury as the curses of civilization. An

apostle of the simple life, he lived for years the life of a hermit in a small clearing in the primeval forests of the far Northwest. In his voluntary exile he kept in close touch with events, particularly those among his own countrymen. An enthusiastic literary collector, he has amassed an enormous amount of material, the bulk of which unfortunately was lost in the great San Francisco fire.

Jakob Bonggren

Jakob Bonggren has made himself well known as a journalist in the quarter century he has been connected with "Svenska Amerikana-



Jakob Bonggren

ren," but as a poet he is still more familiar to Swedish-American readers. By many he is accorded first place among Swedish poets in this country, and there is no one to dispute the fact that he ranks abreast with our best imaginative writers. His fertile mind and facile

pen have produced a great amount of verse on a limitless range of themes, his poems being uniformly readable, ofttimes the brilliant crystallization of some fine thought or sentiment, and not infrequently precious gems from the diamond fields of fancy. Whether from necessity or not, Bonggren has stuck to the prosaic routine of journalism these many years, despite his marked predilection for belles lettres and research and for speculation in the field of the occult. Bonggren has written numerous literary reviews and critical estimates, in which, it has been charged, his opinion is unduly influenced by his likes and dislikes. He is a profound student, who in his reading has invaded almost every field of human culture. The services rendered by him to the Swedish-American literature as a critic and compiler are of permanent value, even aside from the opinions expressed to which others have taken exception. The following series of literary critiques and notices in "Svenska Amerikanaren" are from Bonggren's pen: "Litteraturhistoriska anteckningar," I—XXXVI; the same, series I—LII; "Svensk-amerikansk litteratur, I—XXXVIII; "Svenska litterära karaktärsdrag," and "Vår litterära värld," two series, 1898 and 1899. If it be true that he has bitterly denounced certain writers whose style and subject matter have been odious to him, it is also true that he is almost the patron saint of the lesser knights of the quill, whose efforts he has freely and charitably encouraged. Besides his others works, elsewhere mentioned, Bonggren has translated "Caesar's Column," by Ignatius Donnelly, and contributed a number of articles to a biographical volume entitled "Framstående män och qvinnor i vår tid." His published collections of verse, "Förstlingar" and "Sånger och Sagor," contain but a part of the profusion of verse that has flowed from his pen.

Oliver A. Linder

Oliver A. Linder is one of the most distinctive of Swedish-American writers. Until recent years these were, almost without exception, educated in Sweden, and their products varied little in character, style and subject matter from the literary products of the old country. Linder early began to depart from the well-trodden paths and has been growing more thoroughly American in sentiment with the passing years. This fact is reflected in his verse, which is American in tone and atmosphere, in fact, in all its essentials, except the vehicle of expression. He is one of a handful of poets of force and originality among a motley mass of vapid versifiers or mere rhymesters. Linder is a keen critic and an able reviewer, intimately familiar with the field of Swedish-American literature and its cultivators. In an essay on pseudonyms he has given apt and terse characterizations of many of their bearers.

In the eighties several series of humorous letters and sketches by Linder subjected their author to the charge of imitation or plagiarism of certain noted American humorists, the accusation being preferred by persons ignorant of, or unwilling to admit, the fact that Linder was himself a humorist. He himself owned to an affinity in style with Bill Nye, but that was the whole extent of it. In taking up historic research pertaining to the Swedish Delaware colony, Linder again displayed his keenness by discovering and correcting several grave errors in the



Oliver A. Linder

biography of John Morton, prevalent in works of reference. Mr. Linder has been entrusted with the responsible task of writing the biographies of those Swedish-Americans deemed worthy of a place in the new revised edition of "Nordisk Familjebok," the Swedish encyclopedia, a new edition of which is now in course of publication.

Other Staff Members and Contributors

Edwin Björkman had had sketches published in "Dagens Nyheter" and had been a member of the staff of "Aftonbladet" in his native city of Stockholm before coming to America in 1891. He obtained a situation on "Svenska Amerikanaren" as local news editor and wrote for the paper a series of original sketches under the common head, "Teckningar i sanden." In ease and elegance of style Björkman had few equals. The failure of "Minnesota-Posten," of St. Paul, which he was called to edit in 1892, transferred Björkman to the American press. He began by writing Scandinavian news for the Minneapolis "Times," and later became its music critic, besides writing feature articles and other "stories" for that paper. Before engaging in

journalism Edwin Björkman spent three years on the Swedish theatrical stage.

For a time Bengt Åkerlund was a member of "Amerikanaren's" staff. He died as editor in chief of "Skandinavia," published at Worcester, Mass. More recently Emil Amelin was attached to the paper for a number of years. The latest acquisition was Frithiof Malmquist, for five years editor in chief of "Svenska Nyheter," a writer of strong, trenchant prose and similar verse, and an all-round practical newspaper man.

Frithiof Malmquist, conjointly with Edward Fjellander, founded "Forskaren," an organ of socialism and free thought, and a rabid antagonist of church and clergy, in 1893, at Rockford, and remained with that publication for several years after its removal to Minneapolis in 1894. In 1900 he was connected with "Svenska Tribunen," which he left to take the position of editor of "Svenska Nyheter" in 1901. For the next few years he gave this paper wide reputation as an outspoken and radical labor organ. When "Nyheter" was consolidated with "Svenska Tribunen" in 1906, Malmquist resigned and soon after joined the staff of "Svenska Amerikanaren." Malmquist is a writer of bristling and unkempt verse as shown in a volume appropriately entitled "Törnen och Tistlar." The author's literary ability is self-acquired, he having left the public school in Sweden at the age of fourteen to become a joiner's apprentice and never after had an opportunity for systematic study.

Missions-Vännen

In July, 1874, the Mission Synod founded in Chicago a church paper, called "Missions-Vännen," which was at first published once a month. The first editors were A. W. Hedenschoug and L. J. Peterson. In 1880 Rev. Andrew Hallner assumed the editorship of the paper, which was then made a weekly. A stock company, consisting of members of the North Side Mission Church of Chicago, and known as the Mission Friends Publishing Co., purchased the paper in 1882, doubled its size and added political and general news departments. Prior to this change, Hallner had been succeeded by Rev. A. E. Wenstrand, and now Gustaf Theden was made news and political editor. Some time after, Hallner again edited "Missions-Vännen," assisted by Gustaf Sjöström. In 1888 Rev. O. Högfeldt took charge of the church department, and prior thereto A. F. Boring had been engaged. Hallner continued as political editor, and for several years made the paper a champion of prohibition, until succeeded by Rev. John Hagström. Högfeldt and Boring remain with the paper in an editorial capacity,

while the business management is entrusted to C. G. Petterson. Although private property, "Missions-Vännen" is the recognized organ of the Mission Covenant. Much of its prestige is due to the contributions of P. P. Waldenström, the leader of the Mission Covenant of Sweden, who has written for its columns for many years past.

The Mission Friends Publishing Company conducts a bookstore, and has published the following books: "Sionsharpan," text and music editions; "Dagligt Manna," by F. Risberg; "Lifvet, döden och evigheten," by A. Mellander; "Bibelbilder," by F. Risberg, and "Vinterros," an annual for children.



Rev. Otto Högfeldt

In 1891 Otto Högfeldt began publishing an annual, entitled "Hemat," which is still being issued. A. F. Boring is the editor of two juvenile annuals, "Barnens Kalender" and "Vinterros."

At North Park College the Mission Covenant conducts a book and publishing business, from which is issued "Missionären," a semi-monthly mission paper. Several books have been published by the same concern, chief of which is a 500-page book on Palestine, by Prof. Axel Mellander. "Aurora," a Christmas annual, edited by him, also has been issued from this office.

Johan Alfred Almkvist

Johan Alfred Almkvist, who was associate editor of "Missions-Vännen" for three months and of "Kuriren" for eight months, developed an extensive literary activity as a translator while in Chicago. He rendered into Swedish several religious works by J. R. McDuff,

published under the following titles: "Eskolsdrufvor." "Eldsprofeten." "Klarare än solen"; also "Trenne Familjer" and the following books by Dwight L. Moody: "Förborgad Kraft," "Segervinnande bön," "Vägen till Gud" and "Till verksamhet, till verksamhet!" His poetic ability stood him in good stead in rendering into Swedish the many religious songs quoted in these works. Almkvist has given several proofs of his talent as a writer of very readable prose fiction. In Sweden he published in serial form a number of stories, including "Vid kusten," "En syndares väg" and "Svindlaren i Stollnäs," the latter attracting considerable attention at the time.

Almkvist was born at Tanum, Sweden, in 1847. He studied in Uddevalla and, after his coming to the United States in 1872, took theological courses at Decorah College, Decorah, Iowa, and Concordia College in St. Louis. He returned to Sweden in 1874, continued divinity studies at the Ahlberg school and served as a pastor for one year. In 1878 he became editor of "Gestrikland," a paper published in Gefle, and later published "Folkets Vän" and "Norrlands Annonsblad," two radical organs. After having been imprisoned for infringing the libel law he abandoned journalism in Sweden and returned to this country.

The Augustana Book Concern

The beginning of this publishing house may be traced back to December, 1877, when a society called "Ungdomens Vänner" was founded by President Hasselquist, Professors O. Olsson, C. O. Granere, C. P. Rydholm and the five members of the first senior class of Augustana College. Their aim was to foster the young people's societies which began to form at that time in many of the churches. Besides printing several tracts and pamphlets, the society began publishing the monthly "Ungdoms-Vännen" in January, 1879. Two years later, "Korsbanéret," a Christmas annual, was turned over to the society by its publishers, O. Olsson and C. A. Swensson, who had started it in 1880. The name of the society was changed in February, 1883, to the Augustana Tract Society. The membership fees not sufficing to meet expenses, the business was incorporated under the name of Augustana Book Concern the same year and capitalized at $15,000, divided in 300 shares. One of the provisions was that two-thirds of any net profits should go to Augustana College and Theological Seminary. The following year the new firm purchased Thulin and Anderson's printing shop in Moline, and also secured possession of the old society's publications and other property. The firm started a bookstore at 7th avenue and 38th street, Rock Island. Prof. C. P. Rydholm, the first manager, was succeeded in September of the same year by Jonas Westling. He re-

mained until 1886, when Rev. P. J. Källström took charge. The following July the monthly "Ungdomsvännen." was changed to a weekly and named "Hemvännen." In the fall of 1887 C. G. Thulin sold his bookstore to the Augustana Book Concern and assumed the management of affairs. The following year one of the publications of the Concordia Pub. Co., Chicago, was bought by the Augustana Book Concern and united with its own periodical, "Hemvännen."

In 1889 the board of directors offered to turn its property over



The Augustana Book Concern Building

to the Augustana Synod, provided the latter would establish a board of publication and reimburse those stockholders who might be unwilling to donate their capital stock to the synod. A few days later the synod appointed a board of publication and instructed it, if possible, to buy out the Augustana Book Concern in the interest of the synod. The synod recognized that its duty was to compensate Engberg and Holmberg, who had bought out the synod's book business and had assumed its liabilities, with the understanding that it was to continue as the official supply house, and therefore resolved that a satisfactory agreement should be made with Engberg and Holmberg. It may

be observed, in passing, that no attempt has been made on the part of the synod to carry out its resolution.

The board of publication incorporated in August, 1889, under the name of the Lutheran Augustana Book Concern, and took possession of the property of its predecessor, promising to pay to the stockholders in five years eighty per cent. of the value of the paid up stock, with interest. This was accomplished within the stated time.

Dr. S. P. A. Lindahl became president of the publishing house, and remained in this capacity until his death in 1908. A. G. Anderson has been manager from the first. In 1895 the Globe Bindery was purchased and united with the plant. Two years later a commodious



Carl G. Thulin

brick building was erected, sufficient to house all the departments. Branches have been established, in St. Paul, 1891, New York, 1904, and Chicago, 1907. In 1906 the corporate name was changed back to Augustana Book Concern.

The periodicals published by the institution are: "Augustana," the weekly church organ, "Tidskrift för teologi och kyrkliga frågor," "Ungdomsvännen," "Barnens tidning," "Textblad för söndagsskolan," "Solstrålen," "Solglimten," "The Olive Leaf," and "The Young Lutheran's Companion." Of their book publications, approximately two hundred and fifty-three in number, about fifteen are school books, seven are historical and biographical works, fifty-two are devotional and other religious works, ninety are Sunday school storybooks, four are hymnals, eight are collections of poetry, ten are music books, while sixty-eight are of a miscellaneous character. Their most notable original publications are Norelius' "De svenska

luterska församlingarnas och svenskarnes historia i Amerika" and the annuals "Korsbaneret" and "Prärieblomman."

Augustana

"Augustana," the official paper of the Augustana Synod, was founded in 1856 as a small monthly devotional paper bearing the name of "Det Rätta Hemlandet." In 1873 it was made a weekly and the name changed to "Augustana och Missionären." In 1876 the weekly was divided into two fortnightly papers, named, respectively, "Augustana" and "Missionären." This experiment was abandoned the following year and the paper was issued weekly as before. The paper was enlarged in 1885, and named simply "Augustana." Another enlarge-



Rev. Sven P. A. Lindahl

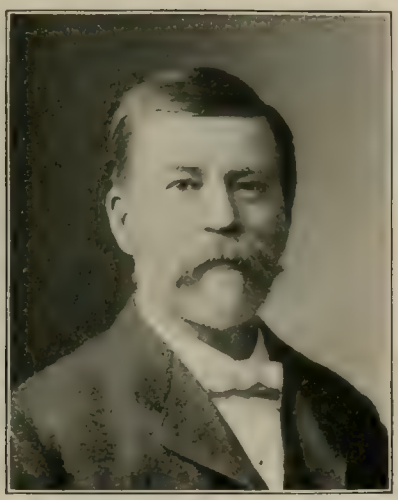
ment took place in 1890, since which time the paper has been issued in 4-column, 16-page form. Dr. Hasselquist, the founder and first editor, was succeeded in 1858 by Eric Norelius, who was followed shortly by Erland Carlsson, nominal editor until 1864, with the material assistance of Jonas Engberg. From the last-named year A. R. Cervin was in charge until the end of 1868, when his assistant, J. G. Princell, did all the editorial work for six months, or until July, 1869, when Hasselquist again took up the work. During subsequent years the editorial work was divided among Hasselquist, Norelius, O. Olsson, Cervin, C. P. Rydholm, C. M. Esbjörn and L. G. Abrahamson. From 1890 until his death in 1908, Dr. S. P. A. Lindahl was editor-in-chief, assisted by Abrahamson, C. O. Lindell, A. Rodell, O. V. Holmgrain, C. J. Bengston and others. To succeed Lindahl, the synod in 1908 chose Dr. Abrahamson, who at present directs the editorial policy of the synodical organ.

Life sketches of almost every one of these men appear in various parts of this work.

Besides "Augustana," the most consequential periodicals issued from the synodical publishing house are "Ungdomsvännen," an illustrated monthly, much of the contents of which is of general interest and has more than transient value, and "Augustana Theological Quarterly: Tidskrift för teologi och kyrkliga fragor," a dignified two-language publication.

Chicago-Bladet

As a result of a division of opinion among the Mission Friends in the middle seventies on church government, John Martenson in



John Martenson

February, 1877, started a fortnightly religious paper in Chicago, which was named "Chicago-Bladet." In 1879 it combined with it "Zions Banér," and was thenceforth issued weekly. Rev. K. Erixon, the publisher of the latter paper, became a partner in the business, and later Victor Rylander joined the firm. About 1882, Martenson bought out both his partners, and since then has been sole proprietor of the newspaper. Himself managing editor, he has from time to time had the assistance of Hjalmar Anderson, Rev. J. G. Princell, Gustaf Sjöström, K. Newquist, Andrew Anderson and C. G. Nilsson. After having worked in the printing office for nine years, Andrew Anderson was engaged on the editorial staff, a position he still retains. By a sort of tacit consent, "Chicago-Bladet" holds an official position in the denomination of Free Mission Friends.

A book and publishing concern is maintained in connection with the newspaper. A monthly Sunday school paper, named "Columba," is published, and among the books issued from this office may be mentioned: "Blad ur Naturens Historia;" "Märkvärdigheter ur Naturen, Historien och Lifvet;" "Himla-Uret;" "The Reconciliation," and "The Blood of Jesus." The book "Himla-Uret" (Heaven's Clock) is remarkable as an effort by its author, Rev. F. Franson, to establish the time of the Last Judgment.

Fosterlandet

For more than fifteen years a paper called "Fosterlandet" was published in Chicago by private enterprise, in the interest of the Swedish Lutherans. It was founded by Dr. Carl Swensson at Lindsborg, Kansas, under the name of "Framåt," and removed to Chicago prior to 1890. Petrus C. Pearson was the editor and Dr. Swensson the chief contributor. In October, 1890, Ernst W. Olson was added to the staff, the paper was doubled in size to eight pages of seven columns each, and the name changed to "Fosterlandet." In 1896 "Nya Pressen" was consolidated with "Fosterlandet," and Mr. Olson again joined Mr. Pearson in the editorial work, after an absence of four years. The stock company owning the newspaper transferred the property to the new publishers of "Svenska Tribunen" in 1900, who published both papers with the aid of the same editorial staff for several years, afterwards putting Rev. J. W. Nyvall in editorial charge of "Fosterlandet." After a second change of ownership, which removed the paper entirely from churchly influence, it died by slow stages, its nominal successor being a story paper, named "Fylgia." Until his death, in 1904, Dr. Carl Swensson was a constant contributor to the paper, which acquired strength and influence largely through his popular weekly letters. Dr. Carl A. Evald's able pen was also enlisted in the service of "Fosterlandet" for a number of years. Two different editions of "Fosterländskt Album," edited by E. W. Olson, were published in 1897 and 1898, as premiums.

Carl Aaron Swensson

In Swedish-American literature Carl Swensson holds a prominent place. While a student at Augustana College, Swensson began to contribute to "Hemlandet" and one or two periodicals, and he wrote for the current press continually almost up to the day of his death. He started "Framåt" at Lindsborg, in 1884, edited the paper for a time and made weekly contributions to it for twenty years. His articles under the caption "Vid Skrifbordet" in "Framåt," later "Fosterlandet," were probably more generally read than anything written for

Swedish-American newspapers, religious or secular, before or after. For long periods he also contributed weekly letters and articles to "Hemlandet," "Svenska Tribunen" and from three to six other papers, besides furnishing articles for the American press from time to time. In Lindsborg he was the principal stockholder in a bookstore and the proprietor of two weeklies, "Lindsborgs-Posten" and the "Record," and did more or less editorial work on both.

It is readily understood that in such a mass of copy furnished, some would be inferior and trivial. To judge his literary ability by what he wrote on board trains in his extensive travels, or in moments



Rev. Carl A. Swensson

when a hundred cares stood waiting at his elbow, or in the weary hours after a strenuous day's work, would not be fair. But take him at his best, in his books "I Sverige" and "Åter i Sverige," both giving his impressions of Sweden, and he will be found an alert observer, a skillful word-painter, a brilliant narrator, and altogether a charming writer. The last-named book by him was published also in an English edition, and the first was published both in Chicago and in Stockholm. Other works by Swensson are: "Vid hemmets härd," an illustrated volume of miscellany; "I Morgonstund," brief discourses on Bible texts; "Förgät-mig-ej," with contributions by others, and "Jubel-Album," an illustrated historical account of the Augustana Synod, compiled in collaboration with Dr. L. G. Abrahamson and published by the National Publishing Company of Chicago. Together with others, he edited "Korsbaneret," a church annual, for five years, and "Ungdomsvännen" from 1880 to 1887.

Carl Aaron Swensson was born at Sugar Grove, Pa., June 25, 1857, and reared at Andover, Ill., where his father, Jonas Swensson, was pastor of the Swedish Lutheran church. He was educated at Augustana College, graduating from its college department in 1877 and from the theological seminary two years later. Having been ordained minister of the Augustana Synod, he was called to the church in Lindsborg. In 1881 he founded Bethany Academy, the modest forerunner of Bethany College, an institution which grew large and influential under his charge and stands as a monument to his remarkable energy. At the time of Swensson's death the institution had twelve departments of instruction, half a hundred professors and instructors, 950 students and property valued at $200,000.

In addition to his work as a preacher, educator and writer, Swensson accomplished much work in other fields. When the temperance agitation stirred Kansas, he was in the thickest of the fight and did as much as any man to secure the adoption of the prohibition law in that state. He served in the state legislature in 1889-90. In politics a progressive Republican, Swensson was a successful campaign speaker and did yeoman service in behalf of presidential and gubernatorial candidates.

In the pulpit, on the lecture platform, or on the political "stump," Swensson had few equals in his ability to sway an audience. Whether in English or Swedish, he spoke with the same spontaneous eloquence. His great public activity is reflected in the large number of offices and appointments filled by him in the church and the state. Augustana and Thiel Colleges conferred on him the degree of D. D., Upsala University that of Ph. D., and by King Oscar II. he was created a Knight of the Order of the Polar Star. Swensson passed away at Los Angeles, Cal., Feb. 16, 1904.

Svenska Kuriren

A weekly comic paper named "Kurre" was started in Chicago in May, 1884, by F. W. Ankarfelt. In December, 1887, it was changed to a news sheet. About this time Bredtschneider, the illustrator of "Kurre," and one Turk acquired an interest in the plant. By intrigue, it is claimed, the two soon after mortgaged the property to John Marder, of Marder, Luse and Co., in settlement for printers' supplies furnished by him on account, and he took over and ran the paper in a fashion for a number of months.

Having learnt that the paper was for sale, Alex J. Johnson, then an employee of a crockery firm, made inquiries looking toward a purchase. The price asked was far above his own means, but on Aug. 8, 1888, a contract was entered into by which Johnson assumed the

management of the paper, the owner agreeing to advance the money needed for the balance of the year. The paper ran at a loss, and by Jan. 1, 1889, it stood Mr. Johnson at about $7,000. By giving notes for almost the whole of that amount, Johnson secured possession and soon put the business on a paying basis. During his twenty years as publisher of "Svenska Kuriren," Mr. Johnson has had personal charge of the editorial work as well as the business management of his paper.

Alex J. Johnson

In point of ready wit, clearness of style and all-round knowledge, Mr. Johnson has no superior and few equals in the field of Swedish-American journalism. His conception of editing a newspaper is to



Alex J. Johnson

talk to the public as a friend to another, discussing any topic of the day, but leaving every one to follow his own opinion. He has little respect for popular opinion, and, as a sort of temperamental oppositionist, seemingly likes to go against it, thereby often stirring up a hornet's nest. He can give and take with the same evenness of temper, and has the rare faculty of retaining as readers even those whose views differ radically from his own. His criticisms would be more feared, if less certain, but as it is, an approval from him is never expected. His bristling editorials are very generally read and enjoyed, and have aided greatly in the making of Mr. Johnson's paper.

For a number of years a book of fiction and humor, named "Kurre-Kalender," was published by Mr. Johnson and given free to the subscribers of "Svenska Kuriren."

Gustaf Wicklund

Gustaf Wicklund, born in Gefle, Sweden, Dec. 8, 1852, enriched our poetical and humorous literature measurably during the twenty odd years he was engaged in newspaper work. He came over in 1878 and tried diverse occupations for four years, including that of tailor, then secured employment on "Svenska Amerikanaren." He was associated with Ninian Waerner in editing the comic weekly "Kurre" from May, 1884, to December, 1887, when that publication was metamorphosed into "Svenska Kuriren." After working on papers in Minneapolis for five years, he returned to Chicago and edited "Humor



Gustaf Wicklund

isten" for a number of years. Having been connected with "Tribunen" for some time, he lost his position when the paper was sold in 1900. He then went back to Minneapolis, where he was connected with "Svenska Amerikanska Posten" until his death, Oct. 10, 1905.

Wicklund was a facile writer of witty verse and humorous prose sketches. He wrote clever topical songs and improvised verses for numberless occasions with the same ease that characterizes the flow of language from a fluent public speaker. Wicklund was a playwright of no mean order. Five comedies were written by him in Chicago and produced in this and other cities. One of these, entitled "En afton pa Tre Byttor," was played at the People's Theatre of Stockholm, where it enjoyed a month's run. It was published by Albert Bonnier, of Stockholm. Wicklund's Swedish rendition of "Pinafore" has been given publicly both in Chicago and in Sweden. After his death, Wicklund's verses were published in a collection entitled "Gnistor fran rimsmedjan."

Otto Pallin

Otto Pallin for a few months in 1884 was editor and publisher of "Rockfords Allehanda" and subsequently was assistant editor of "Kurre," "Svenska Kuriren" and "Svenska Tribunen." Pallin possessed rare versatility. He was a good singer, a talented actor in the comedy class and a good writer of short stories and witty verse. He was a college man and had begun studying medicine when in 1880 he suddenly abandoned his studies to emigrate. In this country he tried his hand at many things—he was druggist, doctor, concert singer, grocery salesman, bartender, actor and cook, before engaging in



Otto Pallin

journalism. Pallin passed away on the 21st of May, 1904, soon after having been reengaged on the staff of "Svenska Kuriren."

Wilhelm Åkerberg

Wilhelm Åkerberg, a Stockholmian by birth, on his third visit to Chicago about 1888 was engaged as associate editor of "Kuriren" and in 1890 went over to "Humoristen" as its editor. The next year he left for Sweden and started a paper in Stockholm, which was shortlived; came back to Chicago in 1892, was reengaged on "Humoristen" for a few months, then, with Higgins, the artist, started a comic paper called "Skämt," in August, 1893, and when its short course was run, another called "Den svensk-amerikanska Söndags-

Nisse," whose career was likewise brief, being cut short after five months by the death of Åkerberg in June, 1894.

Åkerberg was a talented but unprincipled and erratic young man. Drink was the bane of his life, and in a spirit of bravado he owned to having "soaked" a large part of his inheritance at certain Stockholm inns. He wrote a mass of well-turned rhymes, mostly of the anacreontic variety. He was fond of stage life, often took part in the production of Swedish theatricals here, and himself wrote a play, "En folktalare," produced in Chicago in 1888.

Otto Cræ̈lius

Otto Craelius, associate editor of "Svenska Kuriren" for some twelve years, took rank as a very capable journalist and a clever



Otto Cræ̈lius

writer of verse and short stories of Swedish-American life, mostly in a humorous vein. Craelius was born in Fliseryd parish, Småland, Sept. 10, 1863. He studied at the collegiate school in Oskarshamn, being always at the head of his class and making splendid progress. He aimed to graduate ahead of the class, but, failing in that, abandoned his studies and accepted a proffered position on "Oskarshamns-Tidningen" in January, 1885. In 1887 he leased "Hvad nytt?"—a liberal newspaper about to fail—and published it for three years in the conservative province of Småland, not without success. After having been made defendant in a libel suit, he gave up the business, although acquitted of the charge, and emigrated. He died in Chicago March 4, 1903.

Johan Person

Johan Person's pen is one of the most capable enlisted in the service of the Swedish press in this country. He began as a casual contributor to "Svenska Tribunen," writing humorous comments, verses, and translating serial stories. Afterwards he was added to the regular staff. He has taken turns at editing "Svea," of Worcester, and "Svenska Folkets Tidning," of Minneapolis, and is at present second to Mr. Johnson as editor of "Svenska Kuriren." While in Worcester, Mr. Person had published a volume of short stories entitled "I Svensk-Amerika," dealing with Swedish-American life, and this has been followed by many well-written stories, sketches and essays on kindred topics. His style is forceful, inclined to be caustic, but tempered by more than the usual modicum of wit and humor. His depiction of the Swedish immigrant's life in this country is tinged with a sort of sentimental pessimism common to most Swedish writers on American conditions, conveying the impression that, despite prosperity and success, the Swedish-American lacks contentment and real happiness in the land of his choice.

Humoristen—Svenska Nyheter

The first issue of a comic weekly, known as "Humoristen," was published Jan. 13, 1890, from the office of Gus Broberg, steamship and immigration agent. Two other comic papers, "Friskytten," of Minneapolis, and "Frisk Luft," of New York, were absorbed by "Humoristen," which ran as a comic sheet for half a score of years, whereupon a general newspaper, named "Svenska Nyheter," took its place. The new and enlarged paper was published by Mr. Broberg under the editorial management of Frithiof Malmquist and others, until consolidated with "Svenska Tribunen" in July, 1906. The following year Mr. Broberg sold his interest in the combination and retired from the newspaper field.

As editor of "Humoristen" in 1890-92, Ernst Lindblom added much to our humorous literature. A published collection of his verse bears the title "På försök." A comedy in three acts by him, entitled "Pelle Pihlqvists Amerika-resa," was produced in Chicago. His humor is often grotesque and not always clean. As a versifier he is at his best in the serious strain. In an editorial capacity Lindblom was connected with "Svenska Folkets Tidning" of Minneapolis, "Tribunen," "Amerikanaren" and "Humoristen" for eleven years in all. He is now a newspaper writer in Stockholm, his native city.

Gus Higgins is known as a humorist, a writer of bacchanalian verse, a la Bellman, and an artist and illustrator, excelling in portraiture. Being a cynic and a sot, he produced little else than coarse,

though witty, comic stuff in verse and prose, mostly published in "Humoristen" and sung or recited at low class entertainments. The products of his pen are so uniformly repulsive to good taste that a biographer of Higgins, wishing to quote him, had difficulty in finding an inoffensive specimen.

Aftonbladet

Scores of Swedish periodical publications, in this state, varying from annuals to dailies, which it were tedious to make note of in these pages, have each had their day. The greatest number were born and died in Chicago, while the cities of Rockford, Galesburg, Moline and Rock Island have had a goodly share. One of the most pretentious enterprises in Swedish newspaperdom was the launching of a daily, named "Aftonbladet," in 1892, by Pehr W. Nilsson. Having thrown out a feeler in the shape of a weekly, called "Skandia," started a month prior, Nilsson and his associates, C. F. Peterson and Axel Burman, turned out their first daily on Sept. 2nd. It was a 7-column, 4-page sheet. Peterson and Burman were the editors and Carl Aured and C. F. Erikson the advertising solicitors. "Aftonbladet" is said to have reached a circulation of 6,000. The weekly "Skandia," feeding on the same material used in the daily, attained great size, ranging from 16 to 32 pages. Like the men in charge, the papers were Democratic, and it is not denied that the new enterprise was nurtured partly with campaign funds. Nilsson ran the papers for eight months, after which time the business is said to have passed into the hands of Burman. Publication ceased some time in the spring or summer of 1893, to the best recollection of Mr. Nilsson.

Other Journalists and Authors - Theodore Hessel

Theodore Hessel is a unique character in the Swedish press of the United States. Being a man of uncommon versatility, he has been active as a teacher, preacher, playwright, poet, critic, political speaker, editor and publisher. He was born in Skönberga, Östergötland, Sweden, in the forties, graduated from the technical school of Norrköping, studied for three years at the dramatic school of the Royal Theater in Stockholm, taught privately in Gotland, then emigrated and became a Baptist preacher in the United States. In 1870 he edited "Skandinavisk Härold," a religio-political paper, at Omaha, Neb., and in 1879-80 "Evangeliskt Magasin" at Council Bluffs, Ia. After twelve years in the ministry he abandoned that profession, declaring it a "religious humbug," and from that time on he has been a violent persecutor of the clergy. In 1883 he started "Svenska Veeko-Bladet" in Omaha, removed with the paper to Kansas City

after four years, and in 1892 to Chicago, having changed the name to "Facklan"—The Torch. Its light went out in 1894 and shortly thereafter Hessel started an English publication, named "The Swedish-American Review." It was a 9x19, 16-page paper, quoting freely from Swedish-American newspapers and containing articles and comments from Hessel's caustic pen. Its first issue, published in Nov., 1894, was soon followed by the last. The "Review" was published from Svea Music Hall, 456 31st street, Chicago.

The features of Hessel's paper were for many years a series of "Epistles" signed with his pen name, "Farbror Slokum," and "Letters from Washington," supposedly written by himself over the signature "Swedish Department Clerk."

Hessel is a wit and a satirist, but, lacking in heart qualities, falls short of being a genuine humorist. While in Sweden, Hessel contributed to "Svenska Familje-Journalen" and wrote several plays.

Isidor Kjellberg

Isidor Kjellberg in 1871 published in Chicago a newspaper named "Justitia." Its span of life was from March to October. Talent



Isidor Kjellberg

was not lacking, for Kjellberg, as the publisher and editor of "Östgöten," a newspaper founded by him in 1872, at Linköping, Sweden, proved himself an excellent newspaper man. He was born in Stock-

holm, where he obtained a technical education. He came over in 1869, worked as draughtsman in Philadelphia, traversed the Northwest as correspondent for "Göteborgs-Posten," and for a few months in 1870 edited "Svenska Monitoren" at St. Paul. In Sweden he published books of verse in 1878 and 1892, the latter year also a book descriptive of his American tour in 1890. A posthumous collection of verse was published shortly after his death, which occurred in 1895.

Kjellberg is described as a wide awake, fearless journalist. He was a republican at heart, an outspoken anti-royalist, a reformer and humanitarian, who voiced his views both on the platform and in the press.

Axel August Swärd

Axel August Swärd, while a student of theology at Rock Island, produced a volume of verse entitled "Vilda Blommor fran Prärien," which, when published in 1887, was hailed as a significant contribution to Swedish-American literature. It was, in fact, one of the first collections of Swedish verse brought out in this country, the very earliest poetical volume of any consequence having been a book of poems by Magnus Ehnblad, published in 1878. A second volume of poems by Swärd was published two years later, named "Fran Vestanskog," with reference to the poet's residence in Oregon, where, after his ordination to the ministry, he obtained his first charge at Marshfield. Among his most noteworthy productions are the epics "Moses begrafning eller En natt på Nebo," and "Guldormen," and such lyric poems as "Vattnet," "Gatpojken," "Det förlorade paradiset" and "Poesien." Wirsén, poet and critic, and secretary of the Swedish Academy, found Swärd's shorter poems especially characterized by much poetic sincerity, and held that the author of the "Wild Flowers of the Prairies" was at his best in his religious songs. Another literary connoisseur of Sweden, Montgomery-Cederhjelm, gives him his full meed of praise by speaking of him as "a noble, poetic genius, a singer worthy of an exalted place on Sweden's Parnassus."

Following are the outlines of the poet's life: born at Snathunda, Nerike, Sweden, March 27, 1854, the son of an old soldier in limited circumstances; enjoyed ordinary schooling in his boyhood; hired out at eighteen as a farmhand; entered Ahlberg's mission school at Örebro in 1881; came to the United States in 1883; studied at Augustana College and Theological Seminary until 1887, when he was ordained a Lutheran minister; as such he served at Marshfield, Ore., and Templeton, Cal., four years in all; in the latter place he succumbed to a pulmonary disease of long standing on July 20, 1891, in his thirty-eighth year.

Although imbued with the Christian spirit, Swärd's authorship is by no means limited to the religious sphere. But his secular verses, whether sentimental, humorous, or satirical, never fall below the moral standard, never offend the sense of beauty and propriety, and are always in good taste—which cannot truthfully be said of all poets in clerical robe. Swärd was also somewhat of a philosopher and philologist. Certain of his speculative views have been published by Ernst Skarstedt in a small pamphlet, under the title, "Enskilda skrifter." From his youth and for a score of years Swärd was engaged in the task of perfecting a universal language. The manuscripts of his grammar,



Rev. Axel August Swärd

comprising 1,130 pages, and of an extensive glossary, he left to one E. Shiffelin, of New York, who had interested himself in the work, even to the extent of lending pecuniary aid in a small way. But for his untimely death, Swärd undoubtedly would have added much to the literary heritage left by him to posterity.

Ninian Wærner

Ninian Waerner, humorist and poet, was connected with Swedish newspapers in the United States from 1884, the year he came over, up to 1895, when he returned to Sweden. There he edited newspapers in Motala and Stockholm for ten years and died Oct. 10, 1905, as editor of "Fäderneslandet." As second man to Gustaf Wicklund, he worked

on "Kurre" for three years from 1884, then on "Svenska Kuriren" in 1888, until joining the staff of "Svenska Amerikanaren" the same year. In 1889 he accepted an editorial position with "Korrespondenten" of Denver. Two years later he and Wicklund started "Friskytten," a comic paper, in Minneapolis. When it was absorbed by "Humoristen" in 1894, Waerner worked for short periods on "Svenska Folkets Tidning" and "Svenska Amerikanska Posten," both of Minneapolis, until his return to Sweden, in November, 1895.

Waerner's original contributions to the newspapers on which he was employed were numberless. A small part of them is included in his



Ninian Waerner

published books: "I höst- och vinterkväll," verses and sketches; "Pennstreck," stories, and "C. A. Tolléens jul- och nyårskalender," a collection of humor in prose and verse. A poem by him received mention honorable by the Swedish Academy.

As a poet Waerner oscillated between the two extremes of burlesque humor and lachrymose pathos. As a humorist he is best known through the ludicrous and highly grotesque sketches purporting to be "letters from C. A. Tolléen." In these the author affects illiteracy and arouses one's risibilities by the old trick of bad spelling, employed by Artemus Ward and Josh Billings, only to a more preposterous degree than any of these writers. Except for his poems, Waerner seemed incapable of serious writing. He was reckless with truth at all times and never hesitated to distort facts to serve his purpose, as witness his sketches of American life and conditions, given with a pretense of truth, to the reading public of Sweden. Waerner's humorous writings abound in equivocations and phraseology suggestive of

an impure mind, and his personal morals were not the best, but to deny his exceptional literary talent on grounds of morality would be like denying the genius of a Byron, a Bellman or a Poe. Swedish-American critics differ widely in their estimate of Waerner, Skarstedt touching one extreme in unreserved laudation, Bonggren the other by begrudging him even the scantest credit.

His serious verses, albeit smooth-flowing and pleasing in style, lack the originality of his humorous sketches, and those who knew him personally say his poems of feeling were affectation pure and simple, the grossness of his nature precluding all the finer sensibilities.

Ninian Waerner was born in Norrköping Dec. 12, 1856, and educated at a collegiate school in Nyköping and at Upsala University. He had a musical training and was an accomplished cellist.

Leonard Strömberg

Leonard Strömberg, who was for three years associate editor of "Sändebudet," the organ of the Swedish Methodist Church, besides editing "Söndagsskolbaneret," is the most prolific Swedish-American writer of prose fiction. At the age of fifteen he began sending modest contributions of prose and verse to the papers and soon found a demand for the products of his pen. Short stories and verses by him were published in half a score of newspapers in Sweden, and since his coming to this country in 1895 Strömberg has been a frequent contributor to the Swedish-American press.

The list of published works by Leonard Strömberg comprises a dozen novels and novelettes, several collections of short stories, two books of juvenile stories, one of juvenile verse, two collections of poems and two of verses and prose sketches. Several of the novels are rather voluminous, one running through 1,450 pages, while others reach 700 to 900 pages. Mr. Strömberg has found publishers for his books in Sköfde and Östersund, Sweden, and in Chicago and Minneapolis.

The titles of Strömberg's principal works are: novels and novelettes—"Olycksbarnet," "Ett dystert arf," "I tunga fjättrar," "Enkans son," I brytningstid," "Ljus och skuggor," "På törnestig," "Viktor Boring," "Tiggardrottningen," "Hederns vägar," "Genom strider," "Dygd och brott," "Församlingen i Grand View," "I Mästarens tjänst," "Erik Vedhuggare," "Efter striderna," "Satans spel," "Feg;" collections of verse—"Ett klöfverblad" and "Unga Röster;" collections of prose and verse—"Små blommor" and "Festtalaren." He has compiled several other books, including "Sångbok för söndagsskolor." The book entitled, "Erik Vedhuggare," has been published in three editions in Sweden and two in this country, and has been translated into English.

Strömberg has a light and flowing style. His stories are generally founded on actual experiences and events, make entertaining reading, are serious in tone and have an ennobling tendency. From his poetic vein have flowed many poems to warm the soul and awaken the reader to sober thought.

Strömberg was born in Arboga, Sweden, July 11, 1871. He studied theology at the Methodist Episcopal Seminary at Upsala and



Leonard Strömberg

entered the service of the church as minister. In this country he has served Swedish M. E. churches in Chicago and at points in Iowa and Nebraska.

David Nyvall

David Nyvall ranks well to the front among Swedish writers in the United States. Identified with the denomination of Mission Friends, he is prominent as a champion of higher education, and his main work has been and is to promote schools and disseminate knowledge among that church element. This cause he has sought to further partly by his writings and popular lectures. Nyvall is a deep thinker, an excellent stylist and a man of practical views. The following works by him have been published: "Vers och saga" (1890); "Minnesblad, sex ungdomstal" (1892); "Reformationen i Sverige. Reformationens bakgrund. Svenskhet i Amerika. Tre uppsatser" (1893); "Medsols.

Tre fosterländska tal för ungdom" (1898); "Söken Guds rike. Tjugufyra tal för ungdom" (1901); "Skogsdrillar. Lyriska dikter" (1901), "My Business. Talks to Young People" (1906); "Roosevelt och konung Oscar såsom fredsvänner och deras relativa ansprak på Nobelpriset" (1906).

David Nyvall is the son of the late Carl Johan Nyvall, a noted lay preacher who lived at Vall, Karlskoga parish, Vermland, Sweden.



Dr. David Nyvall

where the son was born Jan. 19, 1863. He studied at Vesterås and Gefle, graduating from college in the latter city in 1882, with the highest mark for scholarship, and subsequently pursued medical studies for four years at Upsala University and the Carolinian Institute of Stockholm. His professional studies were interrupted in 1886, when, discouraged by failing health, he emigrated. In this country he began by teaching at a mission school in Minneapolis, but detecting in this position no promise for the future, entered the ministry. Shortly thereafter he was elected by the Mission Covenant as associate teacher

of its department of the Congregationalist theological seminary in Chicago. After two years he joined in a movement to found a school exclusively for the Covenant, and, with Rev. E. A. Skogsbergh, established a school on these lines at Minneapolis. When this was turned over to the Covenant, in 1891, Nyvall was made president and continued in that position after the school was removed to Chicago and named North Park College, until 1905, whereupon he served several years at the head of Walden College, at McPherson, Kansas. Prof. Nyvall has edited church and educational papers from time to time, including "Missionären" and "The Walden Volunteer," and is the author of a number of articles scattered through annuals and other Swedish publications. For nine years he was secretary of the Mission Covenant, and has been active in other capacities as a churchman.

Anna Olsson

Miss Anna Olsson of Rock Island is the author of a goodly number of short stories and sketches that are as pleasant reading as anything



Miss Anna Olsson

that has flowed from a Swedish-American pen. A volume published in 1903, containing some of her best work, was well named "Fran Solsidan," for there is a wealth of sunshine in everything she writes. Her serious sketches are toothsome mental dishes daintily served, while her Swedish-American dialect stories, the most genuine of their kind, disprove the old tradition that there are no feminine humorists. Unlike many who have put to literary use the mixed and grotesque lingo of

the immigrant. Miss Olsson tells a story that has a value aside from the dialect. Contributions by her are of frequent occurrence in the Swedish periodicals "Ungdomsvännen" and "Prärieblomman." Sketches by her in English are no less enjoyable than those in her mother tongue.

Ludvig Holmes

By some, Ludvig Holmes has been ranked superior to all other Swedish-American poets, while the average critic is satisfied to raise



Dr. Ludvig Holmes

him to the peerage, without making him king in this particular realm of the Muses. As a singer he is melodious, dignified, solemn, pure. His Pegasus is carefully groomed and seldom cuts capers in the way of wit, satire or epigram, but paces in measured tread as if hitched to a carriage of state. Many of his poems on festive occasions are fine examples of poetic oratory and almost all of his verse is characterized by nobility of thought and tenderness of sentiment. He has had two collections of verse published by the Augustana Book Concern, one in 1896, entitled "Dikter af Ludvig," another in 1905, entitled "Nya

Dikter af Ludvig." A poetic tribute to King Oscar II. on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of his reign was issued privately. Holmes has contributed generously to various publications, including "Augustana," "Ungdomsvännen," "Korsbaneret" and "Valkyrian." In recognition of his work as an author and a churchman, Bethany College has awarded him the degrees of A. M. and L. H. D., Wittenberg College that of D. D., and "Augustana College that of L. H. D. By the King of Sweden he has been repeatedly honored, having received the following marks of distinction: the silver jubilee medal, the gold medal "Litteris et Artibus" and the insignia of the Order of Vasa.

Dr. Holmes is a native of Ströfvelstorp, Skane, Sweden, where he was born Sept. 7, 1858. He came to this country in 1879 and pursued studies at Augustana College and Theological Seminary for five years, until ordained to the ministry in 1886. After having had pastoral charges at Burlington, Ia., Jamestown, N. Y., and North Grosvenordale and Portland, Conn., he is now pastor of the Swedish Lutheran Church of Evanston, Ill.

Miscellaneous Writers

P. E. Melin, while professor at Augustana College, in January, 1877, started the weekly "Skandia" in Moline, which he himself edited for the first few months, then entrusted that task to Magnus Elmblad and Herman Stockenström. His partner in the enterprise was Gustaf Swenson, to whom Melin sold his interest the following July, making him sole proprietor. Melin was an excellent teacher, particularly successful in inspiring the students with a love for the Swedish language and patriotic enthusiasm for Sweden's history and literature. While a student at Upsala, Melin had a book of poems published and while assistant dean of Hernösand College made a translation of the Book of Proverbs from the original text. He left Sweden in 1875 on a call to Augustana College and returned in 1878, entering the ministry of the state church.

Carl Ebbesen, born in Stockholm in 1855, emigrated to the United States in 1880, and worked as typographer in a number of newspaper offices. In Chicago he formed the acquaintance of Herman Lindskog, then pastor of the Swedish M. E. Church in Rockford, and accompanied him to that city, where Lindskog started "Rockfords Allehanda." When this venture failed, Ebbesen for a time was a reporter on the city dailies, "Gazette" and "Star," then established "Rockfords-Posten," which he conducted for more than ten years. Afterwards he sold his interest and went east, engaging in a similar enterprise in New England.

Bruno E. Höckert has been a constant contributor to "Frihetsklockan" and has developed great activity as a correspondent and

general contributor to newspapers on both sides of the Atlantic. He came to this country in 1889 as a delegate from the grand lodge of Sweden to the world's grand lodge of Good Templars, and has since been a very prominent temperance worker here. He is the author of a score of short theatrical sketches written for production at society and lodge entertainments, but the principal work of his pen consists of newspaper articles on political, sociological and temperance topics. Höckert is a graduate of the Pharmaceutical Institute in Stockholm. He has lectured on a wide range of subjects, such as hypnotism, faith cure, cremation, suffrage, and on various phases of religion, hygiene, temperance and sociology. He spoke at the peace congress, the parliament of religions and the agricultural congress of the World's Columbian Exposition.

A most promising poet and writer was Oscar M. Benzon. He was born in Moline, Ill., Dec. 10, 1870, the son of a Swedish Lutheran clergyman; was graduated from Augustana College in 1891; continued his studies at Leland Stanford University, where he received the master's degree two years later. His extreme ambition led to overwork at college, causing a physical and mental collapse in the spring of 1891. He rallied sufficiently to pursue the university course, but had a relapse and in a moment of mental aberration put a tragic end to his young life on Oct. 13, 1893, by leaping from a rowboat into the waters of San Francisco Bay.

As an upper classman at Augustana he began literary pursuits, one of his first published efforts being a translation from "Martyrerna" by the Swedish poet Stagnelius, appearing in "Balder," the students' literary annual. While in California he indited a number of poems of exquisite diction and profound depth of thought and feeling. One of these, entitled "Illusions," is pronounced by Ernst Skarstedt, "the finest English poem ever written by a Swede." Other highly meritorious poems by Benzon are entitled "Kärlek" and "Till den förtviflade." While at Leland Stanford University, where he made a specialty of German, Benzon wrote verse in that language too, evincing skill in the art of versification in three different languages. As a student Benzon showed remarkable brilliancy, and had he lived to fulfill his promise, great gain would doubtless have accrued to Swedish-American literature.

Charles Edward Thornmark did splendid service to the press for some five years, 1889-1894. After working in the lumber camps and sawmills of Michigan and writing some excellent sketches of life in the frontier settlements, he became editor of "Nordens Medborgare," published at Manistee, Mich., and three months later founded a newspaper of his own, named "Arbetaren," at Cadillac, Mich. It was one of the

very few minor Swedish-American papers edited with talent. The enterprise, however, did not prove a financial success. In 1894 Thornmark threw down his pen, discontinued the paper and became subscription agent for "Svenska Amerikanaren" of Chicago. Since then he has occasionally resumed the discarded implement to write an article, story or poem for that paper. Recently he has contributed articles to "The Public," a weekly political journal of Chicago.

Though self-taught, Thornmark handles the language with admirable mastery, whether he writes prose or verse. Among his poems, which are not many, one entitled "Är du med?" must be classed with the gems of the Swedish-American Muse. Thornmark is a humorist whose sweet good-nature is spiced with a dash of satire.

William Larson is a combination of author and artist. Poems and short stories by him which have appeared in different publications are characterized by objective truth, trenchant diction and a vivid sense of humor. A notable poem by him is entitled "Svarta Ridan." Under the caption "Från torngluggen" he has written current comment in the lighter vein for "Frihetsklockan," a temperance paper. Holiday numbers of "Svenska Amerikanaren," in whose business office he has been employed, have contained a number of drawings and sketches by him.

Carl Gustaf Norman while studying at Augustana College began to court the Muse. As early as 1883, while teaching at Bethany College, he contributed verses to Swedish periodicals, and for the next few years "Ungdomsvännen," "Augustana" and "Korsbaneret" published poems by him. These are uniformly well modeled and often sentimental in tone. Norman edited "Framåt" at Lindsborg, Kans., in 1886-8, and another paper of the same name at Providence, R. I., 1892-5. After editing "Svea," of Worcester, Mass., for a number of years, he took an editorial position on "Svenska Tribunen" in 1906 and remains with "Tribunen-Nyheter" as its chief writer.

Literary Work in English

In concluding this chapter, some of the evidences of English literary activity among the Swedish-Americans of the state may be pointed out. Reference has been made to newspapers in English with Swedish-Americans at the head. A noteworthy enterprise of this kind was the daily "Press" of Chicago, the chief, if not the sole, backer of which was Robert Lindblom. It was published for a brief period in the early nineties. In the eighties there was published in Chicago the monthly "Scandinavia," directed principally by Norwegians, and devoted to the publishing in English of the current events and chief features of Scandinavian literature, history, religion, science and art.

It had Swedish contributors and published not a few articles specifically Swedish-American.

The translation of selections from Swedish standard poets and prose writers has been pursued here for upwards of forty years, both by Swedes and others. Among translations published in Chicago in book form are: Tegnér's "Axel," translated by Major J. Swainson, published together with the original text of the poem, by the Lakeside Pub. Co. in 1870; Tegnér's "Frithiofs Saga" by Thomas and Martha Holcomb, in 1876; "The Surgeon's Stories," vols. I-VI, by Zacharias Topelius, translated by Marie A. Brown and Selma Borg, and published by Jansen & McClurg in 1882; "The Father," a tragedy by August Strindberg, translated by N. Ericksen and published in London and Chicago, 1899; "Swedish Fairy Tales," by Hofberg, translated by Willard H. Myers, second edition published here in 1890; "The Play of Fate," a novel by Herman Bjursten, by the same translator, 1892; "Swedish Fairy Tales," by Anna Wahlenberg, translated by Axel Wahlenberg, published in 1901; a prose translation of Tegnér's "Frithiofs Saga," done by John B. Miller and printed privately in 1905; a metrical translation of the same, about to be published in a profusely illustrated edition by Clement B. Shaw, the translator. Albert Alberg during his fifteen years in Chicago translated a number of Swedish, Norwegian and Danish works into English, besides writing several books in English published here. His original writings, while here, were: "Imaginary Travels," "Vacation Days," "Sophos, or, Kidnapping the Kings," "How I Twice Eloped" and "The Future Emperor of the United States," a satirical romance. His translations are: "The Pilgrimage of Truth," from the Danish of Erik Bögh, "High Aims and Other Tales," and "Marriage," by August Strindberg, "Antichrist," a drama by Victor Hugo Wickström, "George Stephenson," a drama, from the Norwegian of L. Dietrichson, and Holberg's comedy, "Jeppe paa Bjerget," from the Danish. Altogether Alberg has translated thirty or more books from Scandinavian languages into English, most of them published in London during the fourteen years he spent in England. His original writings, published in book form, are twelve in number.

Hundreds of Swedish poems in English garb have appeared in the Swedish papers, as well as numberless translations from the English. The translators of this class of literature are very many, and out of the whole number not a few have evinced ability to produce well-turned and musical lyrics in English. A volume of "Poems and Swedish Translations" by Frederick Peterson, M. D., of Buffalo, N. Y., was published in 1883 by S. A. Maxwell & Co., of Chicago. It contains a number of original poems of merit.

"The Ward of King Canute," "The Thrall of Leif the Lucky" and "Randvar, the Songsmith," well-known romances of old Norse life, are the work of a young Chicago woman, Ottilie Liljencrantz, whose Swedish father furnished her with the subject matter, while her American mother supplied the vehicle of expression, for her charming stories.

Turning from belles lettres to other fields of literary endeavor, we find several notable examples of works in English by Illinois Swedes. Dr. Oscar Oldberg of Northwestern University is the author of several textbooks on chemistry, pharmacy, metrology and related subjects and



Ottilie A. Liljencrantz

has served for almost thirty years on the committee of revision and publication of the "Pharmacopœa of the United States." Dr. Carl S. N. Hallberg of the Chicago College of Pharmacy, another authority on pharmaceutical science, was for eight years editor of the "Western Druggist," and has done a great deal of work in various sections of the American Medical Association, and contributed numerous papers to scientific journals. Dr. Josua Lindahl and Dr. John A. Udden are two other Swedish-American scientists whose names are familiar to readers of scientific journals. The latter has written quite extensively on geological subjects and also dipped into the archaeology of America, as witness a publication by him entitled "An Old Indian Village." In the field of geology he has had a number of treatises published, four of which are the results of his investigations bearing on the wind as a

geological agent, namely, "Dust and Sandstorms in the West," "Loess as a Land Deposit," "Erosion, Transportation and Sedimentation Performed by the Atmosphere" and "The Mechanical Composition of Wind Deposits." Among other scientific papers by Dr. Udden published separately is one entitled, "On the Cyclonic Distribution of Rainfall." A history of Sweden, in two volumes, published some years ago in English, is by N. N. Cronholm, a Chicago lawyer of Swedish birth, and the laborious task of compiling the genealogy of all the ruling houses of Europe has been performed in this same city by Carl Magnus Allström, who has had his compendious "Dictionary of Genealogy" published in two volumes. Herman Lenmalm, who abandoned journalism for dental surgery, in the early nineties compiled a work on dentistry which was published at Chicago under the title of "World's History and Review of Dentistry," in 1894. Dr. Olof Toffteen, of Western Theological Seminary, is the author of a book on "Myths of the Bible." The results of his researches in the past few years are found in three recent volumes from the University of Chicago Press, namely, "Ancient Chronology" and vol. V. of "Ancient Records of Egypt." The first volume of a third orientalist work by him, entitled "Researches in Assyrian and Babylonian Geography," appeared in 1908. To bibliographical literature Aksel G. S. Josephson has made several contributions, including "List of Bibliographies of Bibliographies," published by the Bibliographical Society of Chicago, and "Bibliography of Union Lists of Serials," published by the John Crerar Library. Josephson has edited four volumes of the yearbook of the Bibliographical Society of America and to the "Nation" he has contributed notes and reviews of bibliographical works and of notable books from Sweden.

Recent years have shown an increased demand for English reading matter that is no less characteristically Swedish-American for being in the language of the land. This is especially true of the church field, and the various publishing houses are meeting these requirements. The Augustana Book Concern has published for years an English Sunday School paper, "The Olive Leaf," to which was added a few years back a second English paper, "The Augustana Journal," now named "The Young Lutheran's Companion." A collection of Swedish songs and hymns in English, entitled "Hymnal," is from the same house, also a collection of "Masterpieces from Swedish Literature," six small volumes of "Stories for Children," being translations made by C. W. Foss, from "Läsning för barn," by Z. Topelius, an English edition of Nils Lövgren's "Kyrkohistoria till skolornas tjenst," translated by M. Wahlström and C. W. Foss, and "The Law of the Westgoths," done into English by Alfred Bergin. The Engberg-Holmberg Publishing

Company has been going gradually into English work by adding English text to its later editions of Swedish sheet music and song collections, and in publishing Woods-Baker's "Stories of Swedish Life," an edition of "Frithiofs saga" for colleges and universities, annotated by George T. Flom, and several juvenile books, while its largest undertaking in the English language is represented by the work in hand, "History of the Swedes of Illinois."

CHAPTER XIV

Art and Artists

The First American Artist a Swede

AS early as the beginning of the eighteenth century Swedish artists have lived and flourished in the United States. According to researches in the history of American art, there lived at that early period one Gustaf Hesselius, a Swedish painter, whose works are admitted to be the first artistically executed paintings produced in America. The father of American art, therefore, was a Swedish-American.

A sketch of this pioneer artist may serve as a fitting preface to the following account of Swedish-American artists and their works in more recent times, the greater number of whom have centered about the city of Chicago.

Gustaf Hesselius was a native of the province of Dalarne, where he was born in 1682. His father, who was a clergyman, gave his five sons a thorough education. The other four all entered the ministry, while Gustaf pursued art studies under the direction of masters both in Sweden and other countries of Europe. In May, 1711, he came over to America together with his eldest brother, Andreas Hesselius, whom King Charles the Twelfth had appointed pastor of the Swedish Holy Trinity Church in present Wilmington, Delaware. Shortly after his arrival Gustaf Hesselius removed to Philadelphia, where he established himself as an artist and was married a few years later. About 1723 he removed to Maryland. Among the works executed there was an altarpiece representing the Lord's Supper, painted for the Queen Ann Episcopal Church, which was torn down in 1773. In 1735 we find Hesselius back in Philadelphia, where he now remained for a score of years. The demand for portraits and other works of art being limited, he was compelled to wield his brush as a common artisan, doing house and sign painting, decorating, gilding, and occasionally repairing and illuminating an old painting. He was in partnership with an

Englishman, John Minter, from London, the firm's advertisements appearing in the primitive newspapers of the time.

Hesselius was a man of many-sided talent. He possessed musical ability and was probably the first organ builder in the colonies. It is known that an instrument was built by him for the church of the Brethren in Bethlehem, Pa.

From paintings by Hesselius, still extant, it appears that he was the equal, if not the superior, of contemporary artists in Europe. Among the collections of the Pennsylvania Historical Society are found two of his paintings, one a portrait of himself, the other one of his wife, Lydia Hesselius. "The works of Hesselius are characterized by clear colors and strong light effects," says Charles Henry Hart, to whom we are indebted for researches that have saved the name of Hesselius from oblivion. A few other portraits from his hand are still in existence. This pioneer artist died in Philadelphia May 25, 1755, and lies buried in the churchyard of the old Gloria Dei Church, of which he was a member. His son, John Hesselius, followed in the footsteps of his father and was, according to Hart, the first native American artist.

John Hesselius doubtless obtained his artistic education from his father, and did not go to Europe until late in life. He was engaged at Philadelphia and Annapolis as a portrait and miniature painter, and his name occurs frequently in the history of the colonial period. In 1763 he was married to one Mrs. Woodward, a lady of beauty and refinement.

The two Hesselii were the only Swedish artists in America in colonial times, of whom there is any record.

Another early American painter of Swedish birth was Adolf Ulrik Wertmuller, who flourished in the latter part of the eighteenth and the beginning of the nineteenth century. He was born in Stockholm in 1751, came to Philadelphia in 1794 and died in 1811.

Early Swedish Artists in Illinois

From this time down to the middle of the nineteenth century, we find no Swedish names in the annals of American art. When in the '50s and '60s Swedes in large numbers settled in the Mississippi Valley, they were mostly sons of toil, yet there was a sprinkling of professional men, among whom were a few artists. For these the field was far from promising. In the sodhouse and the log cabin there was no demand for art works, not even in the little frame churches with which these godfearing people soon studded the prairies. Daily bread, for body and spirit, that was their first need. It was not until the second period of development had set in, when the primitive huts gave way to more comfortable homes, and houses of worship assumed a more churchly

aspect, that a craving for the beautiful awoke in the minds of the settlers. About this time the first frescoes and altar-pieces appeared in their churches and the decoration of the private homes began to betray the artistic instinct.

The artists of this period were Peter M. Almini, Henry E. C. Peterson, Axel William Torgerson and Fredrik B. Blombergson, all of Chicago, and Lars Axel Blombergson, of Moline.

Peter M. Almini

Almini was born in Linderas, Smaland, Sweden, March 21, 1825, and learned the painter's trade in Eksjö. He worked at his trade in Russia and Finland, in the meantime acquiring great skill with the



Peter M. Almini

brush. For six years he lived in Stockholm, during two of which he was assistant superintendent in the decorating of the royal palace. In 1852 he came over to the United States, settled in Chicago and there opened in business the following year. He soon made himself known as a skillful fresco painter, and was engaged to do the interior decorating and mural painting of numerous church edifices, assembly halls and public buildings in this and other American cities.

A work in twenty-four small parts, entitled "Chicago Illustrated",

was published in the years 1868-71 by Almini and Jevne. This series was almost completed, when the Chicago fire put an end to the publication. Each part of the series contained four illustrations lithographed in colors, and descriptive text. The grandfather of Almini was an Italian artist, who was called to Stockholm by King Carl XIV. Johan to decorate the interior of the royal palace and who liked the country so well that he remained in Sweden.

In the early days of the Swedes in Chicago, Almini was a prominent figure among them. He was a member of the Academy of Design and one of the charter members of the Svea Society, organized in 1857, and in 1866 aided in founding the liberal Swedish weekly "Svenska Amerikanaren." The business established by him in 1853 is still continued in Chicago under the name of the Almini Company. Almini was chiefly a commercial artist, who painted pictures and sketches merely for study or pastime. He had made a profound study of both ancient and modern art, and stood at the head of his profession in Chicago. He was the vice-president of the Master Painters and Decorators' Association of Chicago and the treasurer of the National Association of Painters and Decorators when they were founded. Peter M. Almini died in October, 1890.

Henry E. C. Peterson

The Academy of Design was made up of members of several nationalities. Another Swedish member, besides Almini, was Henry E. C. Peterson, the portrait painter, who for a time taught the life class of the academy, resigning afterwards to go abroad for further study. The Academy of Design flourished remarkably and was in the sixties a noted social organization of Chicago. It held its meetings in Crosby's Opera House before the great fire, and later in the Academy of Design building on Michigan avenue. The artists' ball was the great society event of the season in those days, tickets selling as high as twenty dollars. After the fire, many of the artists left Chicago, some locating in New York, others going to Europe.

Henry E. C. Peterson was born May 20, 1841, on Skeppsholmen in Stockholm. His father was a ship builder. The son was educated at the Sloyd School at Brunkebergstorg and the Royal Academy of Arts. After having lost both parents in a cholera epidemic, he went for a tour around the world with his brother, who was a sea captain. He came to New York at the outbreak of the Civil War and at once enlisted in the Union navy. He served on the frigate Roanoke and was present at the great naval duel between the Monitor and the Merrimac. After serving the Union for three years and one month, Peterson located in Chicago and took up painting as a profession. He made two

trips to Paris and there studied at the Julien school, with artists of fame. In the pursuit of his specialty of portraiture, Mr. Peterson has painted many people prominent in Chicago and elsewhere. Among those in Chicago were the McCormicks, the Farwells, and John and Moses Wentworth. Among other Americans, who have sat for him, are Brigham Young, president of the Mormons, and many bishops and leading men of the Catholic and Protestant churches. For libraries, universities, colleges and banks he has executed a large number of portraits of men of fame. In recent years Mr. Peterson has had the bulk of his work in New York, where, with his family, he spends the

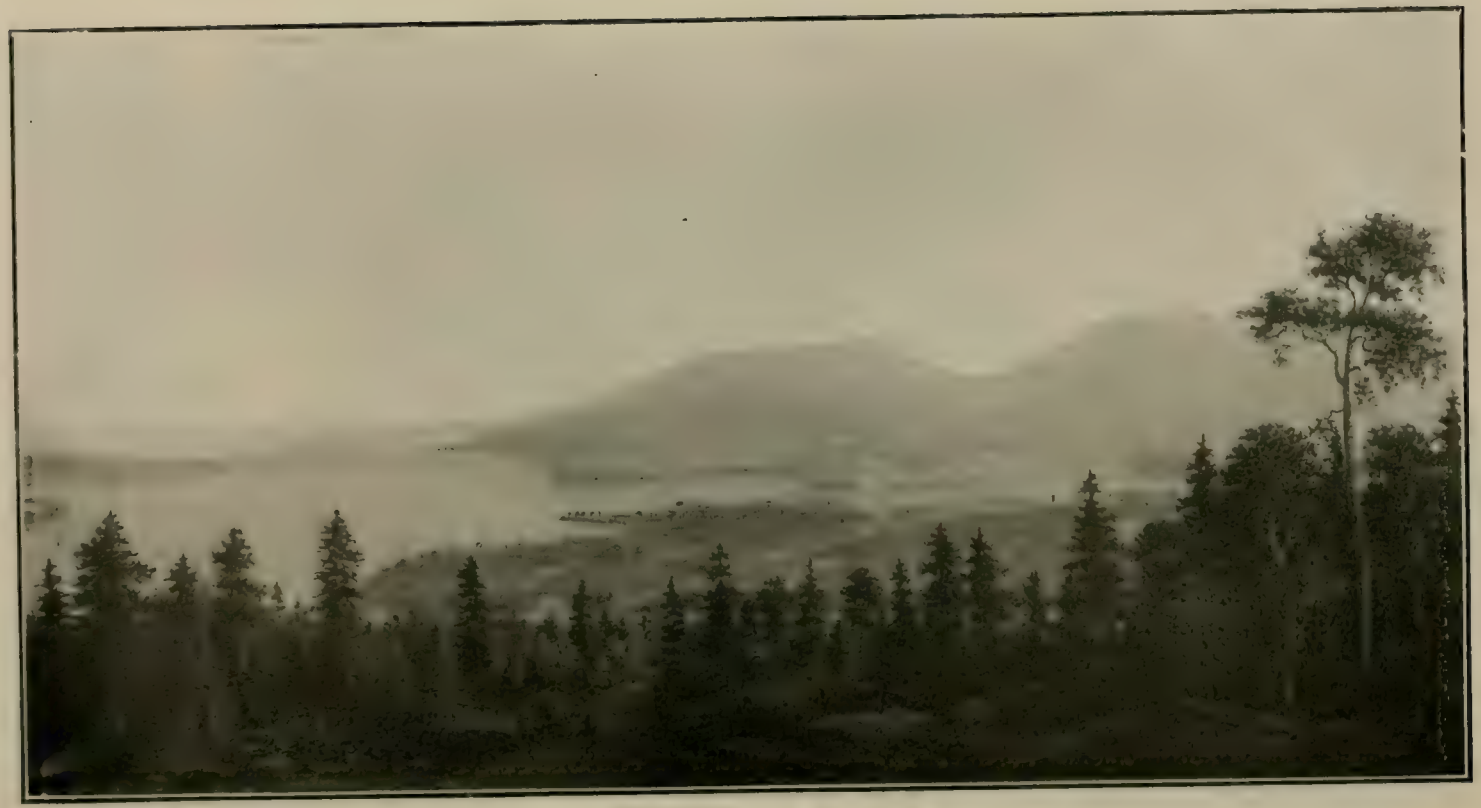


Henry E. C. Peterson

greater part of his time. His wife Emma, née Larson, made a name for herself as a singer in the seventies and early eighties.

Fredrik B. Blombergson

About the years 1868-73 there lived in Chicago a landscape painter named Fredrik B. Blombergson. Finding here little demand for his work, he returned to Sweden. In the possession of his old friends are found a small number of canvases from which we are enabled to judge of his skill as an artist. He was painstaking to a high degree



View of Bergsjö, Helsingland. By Fredrik B. Blombergson

and there is about his landscapes an almost photographic exactness. His tints are modest and natural, and he left nothing to be guessed at in his pictures. The canvas here reproduced is a view of Bergsjö, Helsingland, the artist's home parish. Another painting, also executed by Blombergson for Jonas Engberg, is "A Norwegian Fiord," a splendid reproduction of a most majestic scene. In the possession of John G. Malmgren of Chicago is a view of Upsala, also a replica of the scene from Bergsjö, while another copy of the latter is owned by John J. Engberg and a different scene from the same locality by Eos Hegström. Blombergson was born in the city of Söderhamn and located there after his return from this country.

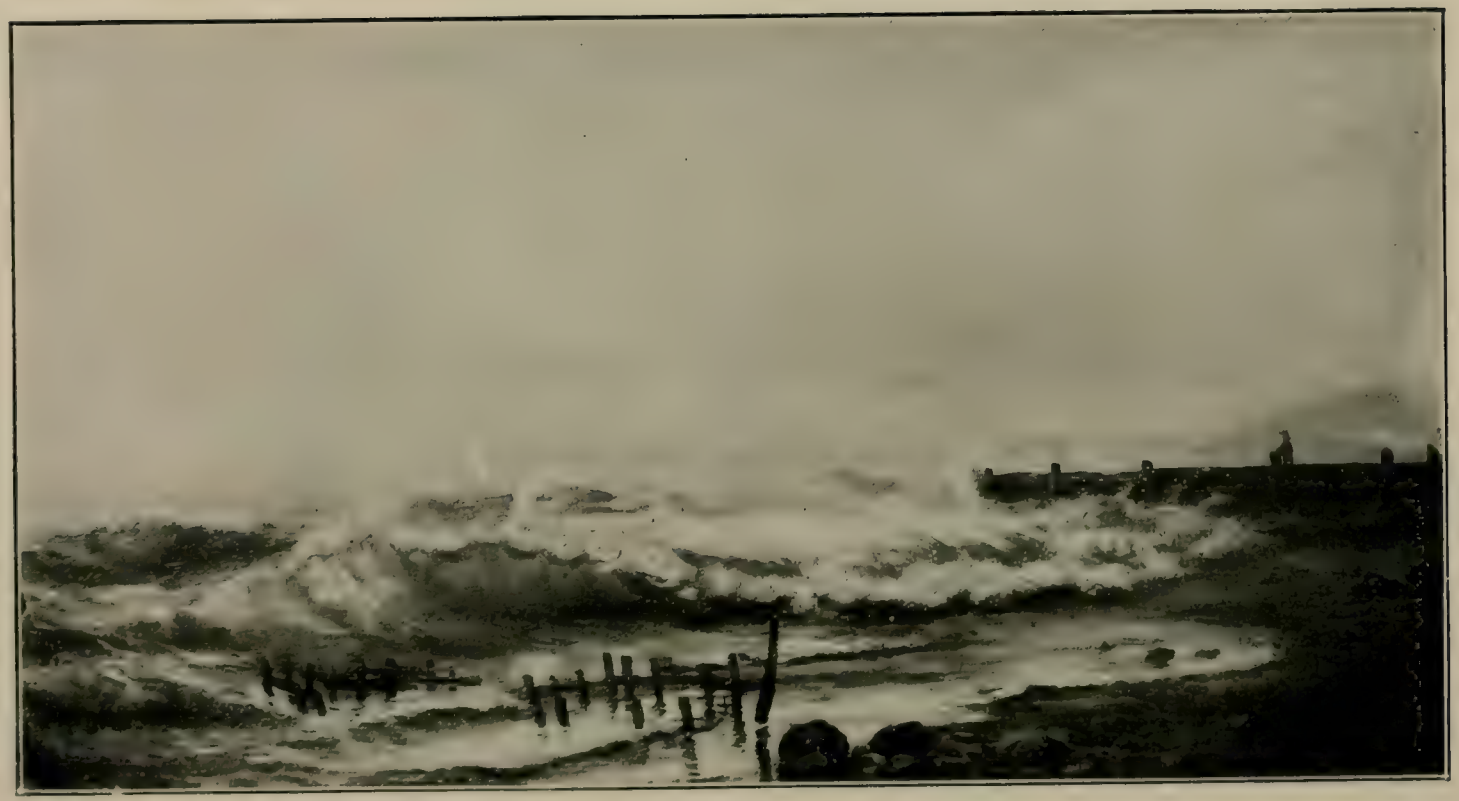
Axel William Torgerson

Still another of the early Swedish artists of Chicago was Axel William Torgerson, who was born in Stockholm in the year 1833. He



Axel William Torgerson

was educated at Upsala University, and at the age of twenty-three came to the United States, locating in Chicago. At first he was engaged in the manufacture of cigars, but, possessing talent and ambition, he took up painting in 1870, and soon developed into a marine



A Lake Michigan Scene. By Axel W. Torgerson

artist of recognized ability. He executed a great many commissions and his work was greatly admired. Torgerson died in January, 1890.

Lars Axel Blombergson

Blombergson was born Aug. 17, 1841, in the Swedish city of Söderhamn, where he learned the painter's trade from his father. He emigrated in 1868, coming to Moline, Ill., where he lived for eleven years. During that time he worked at interior decorating, and specimens of his skill could be seen in a number of the Swedish churches in that section. He died in Moline Nov. 18, 1879. According to our best information, the two Blombergsons were cousins.

Artists of a Later Period

In the '80s and '90s Swedish artists of repute came to this country in considerable number, many of whom made their homes here and successfully engaged each in his special line of work, some as illustrators, others as plastic artists and sculptors, still others as painters. Besides, quite a number of native Swedish-Americans have entered the field of art in late years, and almost every art exhibition catalogue will show a goodly number of Swedish names. As a rule, their contributions to art possess that merit and dignity which characterizes modern art productions in Sweden.

Swedish-American artists, however, in many cases are unknown to their own countrymen, both in this country and in Sweden. Most of them left the old country in early life, and here they have met with greater appreciation and found readier sale for their works among the general American public, few Swedish-Americans heretofore having attained that point of financial independence and love of art, at which people usually begin to patronize the studios and exhibitions. Progress in this direction has been made in the last few years, and the art schools established at various institutions of learning supported by the Swedish people bespeak a growing appreciation as well as a more general cultivation of art among them. Such art schools were opened in 1890 and 1895, respectively, at Bethany College, Lindsborg, Kansas, and Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois.

Peter Roos

The chair of industrial art and design at the University of Illinois during the decade of 1880-90 was occupied by a Swedish artist, Peter Roos, who prior to his election to the professorship was instructor at the university in 1876-77 and in the winter and spring terms of 1880.

Peter Roos is a native of Skåne, Sweden, born at Lyngby, Feb. 22, 1850. He was educated in his native place and at Kristianstad, and came to America in 1872, establishing himself in Boston as fresco-

painter and designer. The following year he was instructor in the evening drawing schools of the city, and in 1874 he established an art school, the Boston Art Academy.

After leaving the University of Illinois Roos studied and practiced landscape art for the next six years, or until 1896, when he took the position of director of art study in the public schools of Cambridge, Mass., the position he now holds. Roos became a member of the Boston Art Club in 1874; N. E. A., 1903; the Cambridge Municipal Art Society and the Illinois University Club, 1903.

C. F. von Saltza

C. F. von Saltza, deceased, was a noted portrait painter. His work is characterized by that touch of genius which makes his pictures not



C. F. von Saltza

merely likenesses of persons, but works of art. Von Saltza took great pride in numbering himself among "the rank and file of those that champion the cause of Sweden and strive to bring honor and respect to her name in all parts of the world." And in his position as in-

structor in three different art schools in the United States at various periods, he doubtless had a greater opportunity than most of his Swedish-American colleagues to make his influence felt.

C. F. von Saltza was born at Sörby, Östergötland, Sweden, in 1858, the son of Count K. A. F. von Saltza and his wife, née De la Gardie. After pursuing general studies at Upsala and Stockholm, he entered the Royal Academy of Fine Arts, studying for six years under the instruction of Boklund, von Rosen, Wallander, Kjellberg and Winge. Among his contemporaries at the academy were Zorn, Liljefors, Nordström and Eriksson, names later known to fame. The years 1880 and 1881 von Saltza spent at the art academy of Brussels, going from there to Paris, where during the next three years he developed his talent as a portrait painter. Returning to Sweden, he was engaged in his chosen line for a few years before coming to the United States in 1891. After a short stay in New York, he came west to Chicago and soon formed the acquaintance of Halsey C. Ives, commissioner of art at the World's Columbian Exposition, who induced von Saltza to assume charge of the department of painting at the Museum of Fine Arts in St. Louis. For six years he held that position, in the meantime painting portraits of a number of persons of prominence in that city.

In the Swedish department of the Chicago exposition in 1893 von Saltza had on view an excellent portrait of his wife. He took part also in the successive art exhibitions at Berlin in 1896 and at Stockholm the following year.

In 1898 von Saltza accepted a call to become the head of the department of painting at the Art Institute of Chicago. After one year, however, he left to accept a like position with the Columbia University and Teachers' College of New York. This he retained up to the time of his death, which occurred Dec. 10, 1905.

Olof Grafström

Olof Grafström was a contemporary of Anders Zorn, Bruno Liljefors and Richard Bergh at the Academy of Arts in Stockholm. At an early stage of his career he made himself known as a deft wielder of the brush, and his fine landscapes from northern Sweden exhibited at the Artists' Club found a ready sale. One of these found its way to the private art collection of king Oscar himself. Grafström is keenly sensible of the beauty of nature in the far North, which he reproduces with painstaking accuracy, down to the smallest fleck of cloud in its glorious sky and the minutest detail of the sunlit crags in the magnificent distance. The weird twilight of the northern summer night has had few better interpreters than he.

During the score of years spent in this country, Grafström has been

an ardent student of all that is grand in our western forests, mountains, lakes and prairies. He spent a number of years in the Pacific states, and many of his pictures grace the homes of wealthy westerners. In Portland, Oregon, where he first located, Grafström soon became noted for his splendid depiction of the sceneries in that section, and his pictures were much sought after both for private homes and public buildings. Three years later he removed to Spokane, where he dupli-



Olof Grafström

cated his success. He was well represented at the expositions in both cities the next few years, and a landscape of his, a scene from Lapland, won the grand silver medal in Portland.

In 1893 Grafström accepted a call to become the head of the art school in connection with Bethany College, at Lindsborg, Kans., and after four years took a similar position at Augustana College. In these two positions he has exerted a marked influence in behalf of art among the Swedish-Americans. This has not been limited to the classroom and the studio, for as a skillful painter of altar-pieces he has



Ljunga River Rapids. By Olof Grafström

been instrumental in disseminating art far and wide among the Swedish people in this country.

Grafström is a most versatile artist, capable of making a pastelle, water color, pencil or pen and ink sketch, as well as producing a fine



Mount Rainier, Washington. By Olof Grafström

portrait or landscape in oil. The last, however, is his forte. He delights particularly in reproducing the majesty of nature, as exemplified in mountains with caps of snow or bathing in opalescent sunlight, placid expanses of water, the gloom of the primeval forest, skies of

delicate tints and atmosphere of remarkable translucence. Many of his canvases are very large, and justly so, in conformity to the magnitude of the artist's motifs.

Axel Elias Olsson

Axel Elias Olsson is one of the very few Swedish-American artists who have adopted the chisel in preference to the brush. A farmer boy, born in Blekinge, Sweden, in 1857, he went to Stockholm in 1870



Axel E. Olsson

and soon found employment in the studio of a sculptor. Not satisfied with what he was able to learn from his employer, he entered the sloyd school and from there went to the Academy of Arts. His education finished as to theoretical schooling, he went to work as a modeler and architectural sculptor, and in 1881 decided to go to France for further study. Changing his plan, he came to the United States and re-

mained here. During the quarter century Olsson has spent in this country he has developed from artisan to artist.

We give here a partial list of his productions, all of which possess merit, some taking high rank as works of art:

Two reliefs, representing Spring and Autumn; the plastic groups that adorned the Hall of Animal Industry and Machinery Hall at the Columbian Exposition in Chicago; models for ornamental sculptures and wood carvings for the new building of the Chicago Athletic Club, including a large group in relief, representing a Football Scrimmage; two decorative groups for a circus building in Chicago; the model for



Art and Music. Relief by Axel E. Olsson

an art fountain in bronze for the Chicago Public Library; exterior and interior ornaments for the new Normal school in DeKalb, Ill., and a marble bust of one of the donors to the building fund for said school; over one hundred allegorical and portrait figures for the new court house at Fort Wayne, Ind., including 16 large gable friezes, each 40 feet in length; models for granite sculptures in the Edison Building in Chicago, also for the Carnegie Library at Muncie, Ind., besides a large number of low reliefs, sculptured figures for graveyard monuments, church ornaments, etc.

In 1903 Olsson completed a marble group in high relief, representing Psyche and the Zephyrs, also a statuette, entitled "The Whisper." Both were exhibited at the Chicago Art Institute, where they met with general appreciation. The Psyche group had a place in the Art Hall of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition at St. Louis in the same year, while "The Whisper" adorned the art room of the Swedish

Building. To the foregoing list should be added the sculpture decorations in the splendid Vanderbilt summer home at Newport, "The Breakers", and one of his latest groups, "Friends", a plaster bas relief, shown at the nineteenth exhibition of American paintings and sculptures, at the Chicago Art Institute in 1906.

An art critic has told the story of Mr. Olsson's Psyche and characterized the work of the sculptor in words worthy of quotation:

"His Psyche bas relief is proof of the capabilities of an artist in the plastic, if he possesses the 'divine spark'. This bit of sculptural decoration is so charmingly well balanced in composition and so truly tender in treatment, that one lingers in its presence, if but to admire the delicacy and refinement suggested. For all the nude figures by Mr. Olsson are characterized by this purity of expression. He believes in the beauty of form, but it is a divine beauty, chaste and pure. There is quite an interesting story of mishaps related by the sculptor in connection with the creation of this delightful mythical creature, that has for generations suggested to sculptor, painter and poet alike a theme whereby to express his art. When the idea of executing such a work first suggested itself to Mr. Olsson, he can scarcely recall, it was so long ago—a sort of cherished dream that the time might come when he could set aside so much of the commercial sculptural effects, by which he had been kept busy and by which he existed, and create something for the very love of it. In 1893 he made his first elaborate sketch of the work in wax, but alas, while it was resting on a chair, some one sat down on it and destroyed it. Then a year passed away, and he began the modeling in full size, taking it to a place for final treatment and casting. Mr. Olsson in the meanwhile had to go to a terra cotta factory to model a mantel. When he returned, he found, contrary to promises made, the clay model of his Psyche relief dry and almost ruined by falling apart. Almost discouraged, he again set to work and restored it and cast it in plaster, but the witticisms indulged in by the men about the misfortunes to which the work had been subjected made him abandon it in disgust, and Psyche was hung on the wall of the shop, there to await—not the coming of Cupid—but Fate. Two fires visited the building, and although the structure was almost destroyed, Psyche still clung to the wall, but with her beautiful arms and shapely feet amputated, and her attending Zephyrs wafted afar. During the spring of 1903 the sculptor was taken ill and, after recovering, had decided to go upon a vacation to last the whole summer through. He made a better recovery than expected and the thought occurred to him that he would spend his vacation time in the restoration and completion of his Psyche. In the sculptor's own words: 'Now or never—and I finished it. The poor girl masqueraded at the Art Insti-



Autumn. Bas Relief by Axel E. Olsson

tute in a domino of bronze—a mud spot on the wall, practically unseen and unknown. But after due whitewashing she was sent to St. Louis and considered a good enough girl to be seen there'."

The writer affirmed that "Psyche and the Zephyrs" would be one of the sculptural attractions of the Exposition, continuing:

"How could it be otherwise? Note the wonderful beauty of form and the energy displayed by the Zephyrs, or Cupids, as others might term them, while the figure of Psyche herself and the suggestion of air amid the bit of drapery is superb. Mr. Olsson has the true art temperament, creating his own art atmosphere, rather than seeking for it elsewhere."

"The Whisper" is a delicately modeled creation, extremely refined, showing the little love god whispering his message in the ear of a young maiden whose figure, slightly draped and exquisitely posed, presents a fine conception of virgin beauty and modesty.

Carl Olof Erik Lindin

Carl Olof Erik Lindin is a landscape painter whose works have gained recognition not only in the United States, but in Sweden and France as well. A native of Fellingsbro, Sweden, he came to Chicago in the fall of 1888, at the age of nineteen. In the following spring he got a situation with a Swedish painter and decorator, but such work was far from a realization of his early ambition to become an artist. Shortly afterward he secured a place as coachman to a physician in Wisconsin. Both the doctor and his wife, learning of the young man's ambition, assisted him as best they could, the former by giving him instruction in the English language, the latter by defraying his expenses at the local art school. After a year he was advised to go back to Chicago to continue art studies. He entered the evening school at the Art Institute and besides took private lessons in painting. In the meantime he formed the acquaintance of a business man and art lover, who not only encouraged him, but aided him in a material way, making it possible for him to go to Paris in 1893 for further study. From there he visited his native land before returning to the United States. In Sweden he now formed the acquaintance of influential persons, who became interested in his future, ordered pictures and assured him of their support in the further prosecution of his studies. Postponing his return to America, Lindin now went back to Paris and spent the next four years studying with Jean Paul Laurens, Benjamin Constant and Aman-Jean in the winter and spring, passing the summer and fall in Sweden. By now, Lindin's name was known and his art recognized in artist circles there, and many of his landscape paintings were left

behind, in the possession of art collectors, when he returned to the United States in 1897.

In Chicago, his home city, Lindin holds a prominent place in art circles and his pictures grace almost every exposition at the Art Institute. His works have been shown in Philadelphia, Detroit, at the St. Louis Exposition, in Munich, at the Stockholm Exposition of 1897, and his pictures were among those hung in the Paris Salon of 1900.



Carl Olof Erik Lindin

In his landscapes Lindin delights in soft, subdued color effects and, although an athlete in build, he paints with almost feminine delicacy.

Carl Johan Nilsson

Carl Johan Nilsson, who studied in the private studio of Oscar Berg, the Stockholm sculptor, and later at the Academy of Liberal Arts, under the direction of John Börjeson, came to the United States in November, 1899. His purpose was to exhibit in American cities a biblical gallery, comprising sixteen groups of statuary, illustrating



Midsummer Night on the West Coast of Sweden. By Carl O. E. Lindin

incidents in the life of Christ, the gallery having been originally produced for the Stockholm Exposition of 1897. The gallery was first exhibited in Boston, then at the successive expositions in Buffalo and St. Louis. In January, 1905, Nilsson removed to Chicago, taking a permanent position as modeler for a large terra cotta plant. Since then he has executed a large number of decorative groups and reliefs for architectural purposes. One of these is a statuary group representing "Justice, Law and Bondage", designed for a new county court-



Carl Johan Nilsson

house at Greensburg, Pa. Another typical work of his is a life size bust of King Oscar, first exhibited in Chicago in 1905, at the Swedish-American art exhibition. This included also a design for a proposed John Ericsson monument, executed by Nilsson.

While in Sweden, Nilsson produced a large number of portrait busts and groups for the Swedish Panopticon of Stockholm, executed plastic and sculptural work for the Northern Museum, the Royal Armory, the Royal Artillery Museum, the Gothenburg Museum and other institutions. For two years he was assistant to Prof. Börjeson, Sweden's foremost monumental sculptor, in modeling the statues of Carl

X. Gustaf and Magnus Stenbock, for the cities of Malmö and Helsingborg, respectively. For the Russian ministry of war Nilsson designed a collection of plastic figures to be part of the Russian exhibit at Paris in 1900. The aforesaid biblical gallery, which was executed by Nilsson and his instructor, Prof. Berg, was taken abroad after the close of the Stockholm Exposition and exhibited for a season in Helsingfors. There,



Justice, Law and Bondage. Decorative Group by Carl J. Nilsson

as in the Swedish capital, it attracted great interest, while in American cities it met with a rather indifferent reception.

Henning Rydén

Henning Ryden, born in Blekinge, Sweden, in 1869, the son of a schoolmaster, was thrown on his own resources early in life and learned the engraver's art. At this he worked in Stockholm and Co-

penhagen, devoting his leisure moments to art studies. In 1891 he crossed the ocean, and at the World's Fair in Chicago he had an exhibition of artistically engraved medals of the presidents of the United States. Finding little demand for this kind of work in this country, Ryden gradually turned his attention to sculpture, and later turned from sculpture to painting. Following the pursuit of art studies in Paris, Berlin and London, he located in Chicago and made a reputation



Henning Rydén

as one of the most skillful medal engravers in the West. For a time he devoted himself to relief portraiture in plaques and bronzes, producing a number of excellent specimens of such work.

In late years hardly an exhibition has taken place in Chicago at which Ryden has not been represented with one or more paintings. At the exhibition of American painters at the Art Institute in 1901 three of Ryden's pictures, "The Edge of the Woods", "Autumn Tones", and "The Close of Day", were the objects of much favorable comment. The summer seasons the artist spends in Wisconsin, making sketches for canvases, which are later finished in time for the winter's exhibitions.

Arvid F. Nyholm

Arvid Nyholm is a pupil of Anders Zorn, whose school in Stockholm he entered after studying for more than two years at the Royal Academy of Fine Arts. In the fall of 1891 Nyholm came to the United States and located in New York City. For twelve years he maintained a studio there, devoting himself both to portrait and landscape painting. His canvases were frequently seen at the exhibitions of the New



Arvid F. Nyholm

York Water Color Society and the National Academy of Design.

In October, 1903, Mr. Nyholm removed to Chicago, where he has since resided. Here he has taken part in all the different exhibitions of water colors and oil paintings at the Art Institute. He is a popular member of the Palette and Chisel Club of Chicago.

In his personality Mr. Nyholm is a combination of northern rigor and strength and the sanguine fire of the south. The same traits are reflected in his art. Before leaving Sweden, Nyholm was a skillful

water color artist, and to-day he is a recognized master in this line of work. His portraits and landscapes in oil display the genuine art instinct, coupled with technic of a high order.

Arvid F. Nyholm is a native of the Swedish capital, where he was born in 1866, the son of the manager of the Central printing establish-



Old Appletrees. Water Color by Arvid F. Nyholm

ment. Having finished college, he entered the Royal Technical High School in 1886, his father intending to make an architect of him. Draftsmanship did not appeal to the young man's taste, however, and in a year he left to enter the employ of Brolin, a scene painter. In the meantime Nyholm took private lessons in drawing from Gösta Grehl, preparatory to entering the Academy of Fine Arts.

Hugo von Hofsten

In 1885, at the age of twenty, Hugo von Hofsten came to the United States, equipped with an art education acquired in the studios and art schools of Stockholm. In 1890 we find him on the staff of illustrators of the New York Graphic. After three years he came to Chicago and was successively employed on the Evening Post, the



Hugo von Hofsten and Child

Journal and the Tribune, until 1895, when he took a position as head of the illustrating department of the Times-Herald. When, after six years, there was a change in the ownership and name of the paper, Hofsten was supplanted by another man, but continued as a member of the illustrators' staff, remaining until 1906.

Mr. Hofsten excels in the line of portraiture, of which he has made a specialty. Aside from the routine work in the illustrating department of a great newspaper, he has devoted himself to legitimate art. The result has appeared in the form of wash drawings and oil paint-

ings, shown at various local art exhibitions. Hofsten has tried his hand successfully at illustrating juvenile books. His pictures for the "Mother Goose Jungle Book", published some years back, betrayed a sense of humor as keen in the artist as in the author.

Hugo von Hofsten comes from a family ennobled in 1726. He was born in Vermland, in 1865, his father being a large manufacturer in Karlskoga. Many of the family have attained positions of high honor in the state, others have made a name for themselves in commerce and the industries. Still others have devoted themselves to literary pursuits. Among the latter is J. C. von Hofsten, an authoress who has enriched the literature of Sweden with many delightful sketches and stories of life in the province of Vermland.

Charles Edward Hallberg

Charles E. Hallberg has acquired considerable fame as a marine painter under the name of "the janitor-artist". In 1900 he had his first picture accepted by the Chicago Art Institute, and since that time his marines have graced every art exhibition in Chicago.

The encouragement given him by two great artists, Alexander H. Harrison and Anders Zorn, furnished Hallberg the impetus to take up painting as a profession—alongside of his work as janitor in a bank and apartment building in the suburb of Austin.

Dabbling with colors since a boy, Hallberg sought to fasten his memories of the sea on canvas. Seventeen years of service before the mast had taught him all the moods and foibles of the ocean. Ambitious to earn a little extra money, he began to copy a little marine sketch by the late Edward Moran, of Philadelphia. But when it was finished, the self-taught artist was sadly disappointed with his work and, throwing down the canvas, vowed never to touch paints again.

Yet the next day a newspaper item changed his purpose. It stated that Anders Zorn was visiting the family of Charles Deering in Evanston. Hallberg at once determined to submit his case to the great Swedish master. Putting the Moran copy under his arm, with another little attempt at painting, he set out for the Deering mansion. There the liveried servants informed him that Zorn was away for the day. While the two were talking, a guest rode up on a bicycle. "There's Alexander Harrison. He's a painter. Why don't you ask him, as Mr. Zorn is not here?" urged the servant. Hallberg looked first at his sketches, then at his mean apparel, and shook his head in hesitation. Finally he consented to send word in to Mr. Harrison, and in a few minutes the artist came down. Asked to look at the sketches, he said he had not time. Hallberg insisted, only to get no for an answer. When the little janitor turned away in disappointment, the artist finally re-

lented, calling him back with the words, "Come on, then, I'll look at your sketches." He looked, not a second, but for several minutes, and said, "There's good in this stuff. Go on, paint."

Encouraged by the commendation of Alexander Harrison, Mr. Hallberg still craved the approval of his fellow countryman, the famous Zorn. Again he sought the Deering home. This time he found a house party in possession. Leaving his sketches at the carriage house, Hallberg timidly went up to the house and sent in for Mr. Zorn. The renowned artist came out to meet the unknown, and the two greeted each other in the mother tongue.



Charles Edward Hallberg

"Would the great Zorn see the sketches of the humble janitor?" The great Zorn would. But the sketches were at the carriage house. No matter—the two went there together, and Hallberg displayed his treasured pictures. Zorn looked at them a long time, then said, "There is good stuff in you. Keep on—paint." It was the advice of Mr. Harrison over again.

Hallberg told of his rare fortune. It reached the ears of a Chicago editor with artistic tendencies and human sympathy, and he brought Hallberg to the notice of the public. Some of his pictures were sold for small sums, and finally the attention of the Art Institute officials was directed to the artistic janitor.

Mr. French, the director, was induced to ask Hallberg to bring in some of his work. He at once recognized the merit and strength of the untutored artist. This was in February, 1901. It was then too late to

include Hallberg's picture in the annual exhibition of the Chicago artists, yet so impressed was Mr. French with his canvas, "The Open Sea", that a special arrangement was made, whereby this picture was hung in the room of old masters. There it attracted great attention and was finally sold for $150.



Storm on the Sea of Galilee. By Charles E. Hallberg

With this impetus, Hallberg worked at his easel every spare moment, and the next spring sent nine pictures to the institute for competition. Three of these were admitted to the exhibition. They are entitled, "Dawn at Sea Off the Coast of France", painted from memory, with the aid of a sketch made on shipboard while Mr. Hall-

berg was a sailor; "A Summer Day on Lake Michigan", showing the placid beauty and vivid coloring of the great fresh water sea, basking in the summer sun; and "Sunrise on Lake Michigan", a canvas of delicate coloring and deft handling.

"Summer Day on Lake Michigan" was exhibited at the St. Louis



Homeward Bound. By Charles E. Hallberg

Exposition in 1904. It was sold to a private collector to be presented to the Art Gallery of Oakland, Cal. In the spring of 1906 Mr. Hallberg had a separate exhibition of forty-one pictures in one of the rooms at the Art Institute. They were all marines—Hallberg can paint water and, except for an occasional fishing smack or schooner, he paints

nothing else. Here was a splendid opportunity to judge of the artist's work. The variety of canvases was unusual, showing coloring and light effects under the varying aspects of the day, the clime and the seasons. Having painted entirely according to his own art instinct for several years, Hallberg, after having had his work accepted by the Art Institute, set to work to gain an understanding of the craft of other painters—Woodbury, Homer Richards, Harrison and Whistler—as shown in their canvases. This study has helped him to a better definition of his talent, and so positive has been his own personality, that in no instance may a picture be said to reflect the style of another man. Thus, in a little over five years this artist has made such progress as to acquire a national reputation. Among his later pictures, which tend to illustrate the advance made by him, may be mentioned, "Summer Morning", a study in opalescent water and morning mists, "Morning After the Storm", with ragged clouds and angry breakers giving way to approaching calm; "Ocean Wave", imparting a sense of the vasty deep; "The Coming Storm", "In the Teeth of the Gale", "Off the Isle of Wight", "Returning Fishermen", now owned by the Clio Association of Chicago; "Evening at Sea", "Moonlight Spin", "Storm on the Sea of Galilee", "Summer Evening on the Atlantic", and "A Northeaster on Lake Michigan."

In 1908 Mr. Hallberg's paintings were exhibited for two weeks in the art rooms of Marshall Field & Co. in Chicago. Among purchasers was Mr. A. E. Johnson, of New York, who added three of Hallberg's marines to his extensive private collection. Another was purchased for the Field art department.

At the outset, Hallberg, in a stuffy little basement den, far from the pounding breakers and the rolling surf, painted the ocean of his youth, as memory brought again the salt breeze to his nostrils and the dashing spray and tumbling brine to his sight. Of late, however, he has worked mostly in the open air, with his easel planted on some commanding point along the shores of Lake Michigan.

Frank A. Lundahl

In point of priority among Swedish-American artists of Illinois, Frank A. Lundahl, of Moline, Ill., has a place next to the early artists, the two Blombergsons and Almini. He is best known as a painter of altar-pieces being one of the earliest in that class of artists in the West. In treatment and coloring these works betray a generous measure of talent, but his figures frequently are disproportionate, showing a lack of that training which might have placed him in the first rank of Illinois artists of the Swedish nationality.



John Paul Jones. Statuette by Jean LeVeau



The Viking. Terra Cotta Statuette by Jean LeVeau

Lundahl's work in crayon and oil has been seen at numerous occasions both in Moline and Chicago. By trade a decorator, Mr. Lundahl displays great skill in that line, combining craftsmanship with genius.

Alfred Jansson

Alfred Jansson came to the United States and to Chicago in the year 1889, equipped with an art education acquired in the schools of Stockholm, Christiania and Paris. Before long, he became recognized in local art circles for his fine landscape work, his subject being usually



Frank A. Lundahl



Alfred Jansson

chosen from around Chicago. Jansson's canvases have hung in many annual art exhibitions not only in Chicago but in Philadelphia, St. Louis, Denver and elsewhere. One of the striking pictures in the local exhibition in Chicago in 1902 was Jansson's "Winter Approaching," which was purchased by the Clio Association. Mr. Jansson is a member of several organizations of artists, including the Palette and Chisel Club.

Gustaf Adolf Strom

A struggling young artist of Chicago who paints wagons for bread and pictures to satisfy his ideal cravings is Gustaf Adolf Strom. In 1897 he had the good fortune to see his first paintings hung in the exhibition of American artists at the Art Institute. The subjects were, "The Fisherman's Hut" and "The Suburb." Since then he has been successful in having his work accepted for almost every local exhibition.

The following named canvases, most of which have been exhibited, are some of his best: "Early Moonrise," "The Old Mansion Gate," "Twilight Tones," "Autumn, the Sad and the Gay," "The Homestead," "The Dreamer's Retreat" and "The Golden Hillside." This laborer-artist has qualities which have gained for him favorable comment in various newspapers and art journals. Strom is a native of



Gustaf Adolf Strom

Sweden, born at Skillingaryd, Smaland, March 2, 1872. Not until he came to Chicago in 1892 did he begin to devote himself to art, and then only in spare moments. As the breadwinner for a family of ten, he is compelled to turn his talent to practical use, while following art merely for the love he bears it.

Other artists and designers whose skill may well be recognized but of whom there is little to be said here, are Gus Higgins; Bror Julius Olson Nordfelt, now on the staff of illustrators of "Harper's Magazine;" August Swenson, who was in Chicago in the nineties and died



The Art Studio at Augustana College

here about 1897; Jean LeVeau, a sculptor, who spent a year or two in Chicago; Johannes Anderson, Richard Swanson and Elmer C. Blomgren, all architectural designers, and one DeMaré, of whose art no data are available. One or two churches have altar-pieces painted by Higgins, but his brush was employed much more frequently in rendering attractive the interiors of Chicago's dram shops and cheap music halls. In the years just prior to the universal reign of the halftone, Higgins held lucrative positions on Chicago dailies as an illustrator. He had



The Homestead. By Gustaf A. Strom

marked talent as a sketcher of portraits and has drawn many cartoons and comic pictures of a peculiarly bizarre type. The picture here shown, entitled "War News," is probably a specimen of his most creditable work, outside of portraiture.

Were one to make note of all commercial artists and of those persons who as amateur painters have attained a fair degree of skill in handling the artist's brush and palette, the list of Swedish artists in Chicago and Illinois would be materially extended. From the mural decorator and architectural sculptor it is not a far cry to the architect, and in the field of architecture the Swedish-Americans boast quite an array of masters of the craft.



War News. Wash Drawing by Gus Higgins

The Swedish-American Art Association

Of a score or more of the most notable Swedish artists in the United States, the majority have been located in Chicago for a greater or lesser period of time. A desire on their part to conserve their com-



Winter Landscape. By Alfred Jansson

mon interests prompted the organization of the Swedish-American Art Association of Chicago. At the initiative of Carl Johan Nilsson, a sculptor, the association was formed February 17, 1905, and Nilsson was chosen its first president. In the fall of the same year the association felt strong and confident enough to arrange an art exhibition of its own. So great was the interest in their enterprise, that the exhibition was kept open one week over the allotted time, or from October 23rd to November 11th. It was a small but choice collection that was placed on view, comprising eighty numbers in all, seventy-two of which were by Swedish-American and eight by Swedish artists.

The success attending the exhibition, led Mr. Nilsson and his colleagues to plan their next exhibition on a larger scale. An invitation was accordingly extended to the Swedish Society of Artists at Stockholm to participate in such an exhibition, at the Chicago Art Institute, in the fall of 1906, but circumstances placed obstacles in the way.

The Linné Monument

In the middle eighties, after the Lincoln statue had been erected in Lincoln Park, and the Chicago Germans had given like tribute to



Group of Children. Portrait Plaque by Henning Rydén

the memory of Schiller, while the Danes were planning a statue of Hans Christian Andersen, the idea of rearing a monument to Carl von Linné was brought up for serious consideration by the Swedish-Americans of Chicago. Discussion matured into action, and on the 7th of June, 1887, a meeting was held, when the first step toward the organization of the Linné Monument Association was taken. On this occa-

sion C. J. Sundell presided and C. F. Peterson acted as secretary. At a subsequent meeting to complete the organization, 45 directors were elected and a constitution and by-laws adopted. According to a rule subsequently adopted, any member became a director upon donating a minimum sum of twenty-five dollars to the cause. At the first meeting of the directors, held July 26th, these officers were elected: Joh.



Linné. Plaster from Marble by Christian Eriksson in National Museum of Stockholm. Presented to the Art Institute of Chicago by P. S. Peterson

A. Enander, president; C. J. Sundell, Robert Lindblom, P. S. Peterson, O. G. Lange, P. M. Almini, Andrew Chaiser and P. W. Nilsson, vice presidents; Lawrence Hesselroth, recording secretary; Victor Tengwald, corresponding secretary; H. P. Brusewitz, C. Eklund, assistant secretaries; C. Widestrand, financial secretary; John R. Lindgren, treasurer. Dr. Josua Lindahl was elected the first honorary member of the association.



King Oscar II. Bust in Plaster by Carl J. Nilsson

A call for public contributions was issued in August, and 10,000 membership diplomas were printed, to be awarded to all persons subscribing at least one dollar to the monument fund. The same year four of Chicago's Swedish writers, viz., Joh. A. Enander, C. F. Peterson, Jakob Bonggren and Ernst Lindblom, published a volume of their verse, entitled "Linnea", which was sold for the benefit of the fund.

The enterprise was of national scope, and no less than five hundred solicitors were appointed throughout the United States. The Swedish-Americans in the East wanted the monument erected in New York, those in the Northwest, in Minneapolis, and other locations were suggested, and when the Swedes of Chicago, who originated the plan, and took the first active measures towards its realization, refused to yield, it was left largely to themselves to carry the undertaking through to success.

The work of raising the money was vigorously pushed in 1888. Three public entertainments, given in Chicago, each netted over one thousand dollars, and others yielded sums running into the hundreds.

The proposed monument was to be a replica of the statue of Linné, modeled by C. J. Dyfverman and erected in Humlegården, in Stockholm. In November, 1888, the association let the contract to Otto Meyer & Co., of Stockholm, for the casting of the main figure of the monument. From the sculptor a new model, with such improvements as art critics had suggested, was ordered for the sum of 5,000 crowns. The bronze figure was to cost 23,000 crowns. The plan was to substitute jardinieres for the four allegorical female figures of the Stockholm monument, but this was abandoned, and the directors decided to make the replica complete. Thereby they incurred an additional outlay of 4,000 crowns for models of the allegorical figures and relief panels, and 30,000 crowns for the casts, making a total of 62,000 crowns for the statue and accessories, not including the cost of the ornate granite pedestal.

In March, 1889, Dr. Enander resigned the presidency and was succeeded by Robert Lindblom, who retired one year later to go abroad. Much work still remained to be done, before the monument could be completed, and this was done under the direction of Andrew Chaiser as acting president.

Finally, sufficient funds were at hand to have the main statue erected, leaving the auxiliary figures and decorative details to be added at a later date. The heroic bronze figure arrived, was mounted on its gray granite pedestal, and on May 23, 1891, the 184th anniversary of the birth of the Swedish "Flower King", the monument was unveiled with appropriate ceremonies in the presence of a great concourse of Swedish-Americans.

The association continued to raise funds up to July, 1893, when the subscriptions had reached a total of $18,970, or a little more than 70,000 crowns. It appears that by eliminating the bronze reliefs and reducing the estimates, the total cost of the monument was brought within that limit.

The monument to Carl von Linné, located near the conservatories and flower gardens in Lincoln Park, is, next to the Grant monument, the most imposing one in Chicago. A photographic reproduction of this fine example of Swedish plastic art fittingly serves as the frontispiece of this volume.



CHAPTER XV

Organizations

The Svea Society

THE pioneer of Swedish-American social, fraternal and beneficiary organizations is the Svea Society, of Chicago, which in January, 1907, celebrated its fiftieth anniversary. In response to a growing demand among the non-churchly element for a society of Swedish Chicagoans, organized on a fraternal basis alone, C. J. Sundell, the Swedish vice consul, issued a general call for a preliminary meeting to be held Jan. 22, 1857, in Hoffman Hall on North Clark street, to discuss the project. The temporary officers of the meeting were, C. J. Stolbrand, chairman, C. J. Sundell, secretary, and C. F. Billings, treasurer. Mr. Sundell called attention to the need of an organization such as had been privately talked of, the purpose of which, he said, should be to strive for the education and ennoblement of its members by means of good entertainments and the collection and maintenance of a library, and to render every assistance to the Swedish people in the city. Their plan met with general favor and a society was immediately organized, to be known as Svea. The temporary officers were made permanent. A constitution and by-laws adopted at a subsequent meeting embodied the plans and purposes of the society mainly as outlined at the organization meeting.

In December of the same year the society arranged its first public entertainment, a fair, when the sum of $130 was realized for the purchase of books. Shortly before, Rev. Unonius of the St. Ansgarius Church had donated a small collection of books, to which later was added a collection originally meant for the church. Thus, a library of four hundred volumes was secured. The leading Swedish daily news-

paper, "Aftonbladet" of Stockholm, was kept at a cost of no less than $56.00 per year, until the price to the society was reduced by one-half through the kind offices of Mr. Hellberg, Swedish director of posts at Hamburg. Other papers from Sweden were secured at less cost.

The meetings during the first year were held in P. M. Almini's building on Kinzie street, then for several years in the Newberry build-



Charles J. Sundell

ing, at Wells and Kinzie streets, subsequently in the German Hall on Wells street and in 1868 the society removed to 45 N. Clark street, where it was located at the time of the great fire.

During the first seven years Stolbrand and Sundell alternated as presiding officers, while F. E. af Jocknick served as librarian. A beneficiary provision was early added to the by-laws, granting members a sick benefit of $5 per week during illness. In 1859 Svea procured its first banner, costing $130.

At the outbreak of the Civil War a number of the members of the Svea Society enlisted, joining the Swedish corps under Captain Silfversparre, known as the Silfversparre Battery. While encamped at Savannah after the victorious battle of Atlanta, the battery was given a furlough and the Swedish boys went home for a brief visit. They were given an enthusiastic reception in Chicago, and a festival arranged in their honor by Swedish ladies was held at German Hall. On this occasion a flag of blue satin, on which was embroidered the American eagle and the names, Shiloh, Vicksburg and Atlanta, was presented to the battery, the presentation speech being made by Miss Lena Larson. This highly cherished trophy was burned in 1871.

In 1866 O. G. Lange during a visit to Sweden procured an addition to the library, comprising 500 volumes and sundry art portfolios, a large part of these being donations from the royal family. The society now owned a library of one thousand volumes. In consideration of his valuable services, Captain Lange was elected an honorary member and presented with a jewel-studded gold medal. The greatest loss sustained by the Svea Society in the Chicago fire was the total destruction of this valuable library.

During the famine year of 1867 in Northern Sweden the society sent 7,000 crowns to the sufferers, that being the net proceeds of a fair arranged by Svea in the face of considerable opposition from the Swedish churches who, while favoring the cause, disapproved of the method.

The same year Svea, with commendable enterprise, undertook the founding of an emigrant hotel or home for the care and protection of Swedish newcomers. After the close of the war Swedish immigration to this country greatly increased, reaching the floodtide mark in the years 1866 to 1870. There was a large and steady influx to Chicago, which served as a distributing point for the entire west and northwest. These people were an easy prey to a class of swindlers termed emigrant runners, self-appointed "agents," who met the unsuspecting newcomers at the trains and, representing themselves as guides, advisers and friends, sought to fleece them at every turn. Some were the paid emissaries of steamship companies, others were in league with hotel and boarding house keepers, while still others operated on their own account. Hundreds upon hundreds of innocents were thus swindled in the most brazen fashion, these sharks and vultures attacking their victims openly and fearlessly, under the guise of officialdom or philanthropy.

After flourishing for several years the system grew intolerable and public opinion was aroused. The rascals were denounced at mass meetings and in the press, Isidor Kjellberg leading the attack through

his paper, "Justitia," while "Hemlandet" and "Nya Verlden" maintained a steady fire. This public anti-runner campaign, however, was not started until about 1871. It devolved upon the various church organizations and the Svea Society to aid and protect the Swedish immigrants long before that.

The pastors had taken the initiative in this work, Erland Carlsson, Unonius and others having labored arduously for the welfare of the newcomers ever since the early fifties. The Swedish churches, aided by other Scandinavians and several Americans, in 1867 built an emigrant home where newcomers in distress were lodged and fed free of charge. They also maintained an agent, invested with police authority, to keep an eye on the runners and warn immigrants against them.

Not long after, the Svea Society took similar measures. The prime mover was Charles Eklund, and his proposition that the Svea Society erect and maintain an emigrant home was warmly seconded. A cooper shop at Franklin and Ohio streets was leased and remodeled into a lodging for Swedish newcomers and S. Trägårdh was engaged as the society's representative. These arrangements were merely provisional. To procure funds for a suitable building of its own the society started a general subscription which netted $2,500. A lot was purchased at 120 Illinois street, for a sum of $4,000 and a building was put up at an equal cost. In 1869 thousands of immigrants found shelter there. A ladies' auxiliary was organized to assist in raising the funds needed to house and feed such numbers. During the same year seven immigrants were provided burial and 87 were sent to the county poorhouse.

At length dissensions over this laudable but expensive enterprise arose among the members themselves and the upshot of the feud was that the home was sold for the benefit of the creditors on Sept. 6, 1871, for the sum of $6,000, only to be reduced to ashes one month later. About this time the society numbered 300 members.

The gala event in the history of Svea was the reception tendered Christina Nilsson, the renowned Swedish singer, on her first visit to Chicago in December, 1870. In the evening of the 22nd a great national celebration took place in the German Theater at Wells and Indiana streets, under the auspices of Svea, with whose committee of arrangements other representative persons co-operated. The hall was crowded to the doors by men and women who had cheerfully paid five dollars for admission. The great singer was feted in splendid style, crowned with a golden wreath, given homage in speech, verse and song and finally toasted at a banquet board spread in her honor. The banquet was followed by a grand ball. Some time after, the arrangers were chagrined to learn that the wreath, for which a prominent jewelry house was paid $1,000, was not genuine. Nevertheless, the Svea Society

had cause for satisfaction and pride in the fact that the affair proved a most brilliant success. This was the first great celebration by the Swedish population in Chicago.

The following summer Christina Nilsson gave a benefit concert in Chicago, the proceeds of which were to be divided among the various Swedish churches and the Svea Society. The latter, being allotted only



Christina Nilsson

a twelfth part of the net receipts, the directors in protest against what they deemed niggardly and ungrateful treatment refused to accept their share.

In 1872 Svea rallied from the stroke dealt it by the great fire. Its meetings were held in various halls for the next five years, and thereafter it secured permanent quarters at Chicago avenue and Larrabee street. By 1880 it had collected a new library, numbering over 500 volumes, in charge of Anders Larson, who had served as librarian

since 1867. The presidents during the first quarter century of Svea's existence, were: Stolbrand, Sundell, J. P. Hussander, J. A. Nilson, Oscar Malmborg, C. Blanxius, Th. Engström, C. Stromberg, C. F. Billings, Gerhard Larson, O. G. Lange, N. Torgerson, Konrad Göthe, Berglund, P. M. Almini, J. M. Schönbeck, Gylfe Wolyn, C. G. Linderborg, A. Aspman, Sven Olin, A. J. Westman and Knut Nilson.

The Svea Society in 1881 provided for death benefits for its mem-



Anders Larson

bers. The twenty-fifth anniversary of its organization was celebrated with an imposing festival Jan. 22, 1882. Other notable data of its history are, the sending of a congratulatory cablegram to A. E. Nordenskiöld, the Swedish explorer and discoverer of the northeast passage, upon his reaching Yokohama in 1880, and the election of Paul B. Du Chaillu an honorary member upon the publication in 1882 of his work entitled, "The Land of the Midnight Sun." Nordenskiöld sent a letter to the Svea Society, which is preserved as a memento. Since 1901 the society has met at Schott's Hall on Belmont avenue, where its library

of some 2,000 volumes is installed. In recent years the membership has dwindled down to about fifty.

Among Svea's earliest members was Anders Larson, one of the pioneer Swedish Chicagoans. He came to the United States in 1846 and then located in Chicago instead of going to Bishop Hill with Erik Jansson's party with which he crossed the ocean. He was a soda water manufacturer in the city for ten years, subsequently locating at Jefferson as a farmer. Larson served as librarian of the Svea Society from 1867 until about 1882. He was born June 11, 1801, at Torstuna, Westmanland, Sweden, and died in Chicago Sept. 1, 1884. His union with Sarah Brita Mårtensdotter, dating from 1829, was blessed with eight children, one of whom is Mrs. Emma L. Peterson, a singer who won repute in the '70s and '80s. When Jenny Lind visited America, Mrs. Larson and Mrs. Unonius elicited her promise to give a benefit concert for the St. Ansgarius Church. Illness prevented the singer from keeping her word, but the action of the two ladies paved the way for Jenny Lind's subsequent generous gifts to this church. Mrs. Larson passed away June 18, 1898.

The latter half of Svea's existence has been less eventful than the first. In the seventies and especially in the eighties quite a number of Swedish organizations of similar character sprung up, dividing the field and thereby decreasing Svea's former sphere of influence.

Knox Svea Bildningsförening

Knox Svea Bildningsförening was the name of a literary society that was formed in April, 1858, and existed about one year. Its president and secretary were, Sven Peterson and Dan J. Ockerson. The undertaking was revived in December, 1865, by the organization of Svea Bildnings- och Läseförening, whose aim was identical, namely, to afford opportunity for self-development through reading and intellectual exercises. Its work was largely along popular science lines, and, although opposed by the most intolerant church members on this account, the society persevered until 1872, when it succumbed. It appears that Pehr Mattson was president and Torkel Nilson secretary during the greater part of its existence.

The Freja Society

The Freja Society was organized in Moline in September, 1869, as a social and beneficiary organization. It flourished for eight years and reached a membership of about one hundred. In 1874, with $2,000 in the treasury, it erected its own building, at a cost of $8,000. The debt thus incurred proved too great a burden, and in 1877 the hall was sold and the society dissolved. Those of the most active members who

served as president were: John A. Samuels, Gustaf Swenson, C. A. Westerdahl, Andrew Swanson, F. O. Eklund, and Eric Asp. Under the auspices of Freja was organized the Moline Swedish Band, which in its day was a popular musical organization in this part of the state.

The First Swedish Lodge of Odd Fellows, No. 479

The First Swedish Lodge of Odd Fellows, No. 479, was organized in Chicago, Feb. 22, 1872. At the time only three of its ten original members were of Swedish birth, but when the lodge had got well under way the others withdrew. The lodge grew rapidly to an average membership of 150, including many well-known Swedish-American citizens of Chicago. In the list of its early leaders we find the names of P. A. Felt, Henry Allen, J. T. Appleberg, D. W. Modeen, A. L. Gyllenhaal, John Mountain, P. M. Nelson, P. G. Bowman, Aug. Nieman, E. O. Forsberg, W. T. Eklund and Charles J. Strombeck.

The Scandinavian Benevolent Society

A beneficiary fraternal organization known as the Scandinavian Benevolent Society, antedating the Freja Society, was formed in Moline in 1866 and outlived the latter. It did not enjoy so vigorous a growth, having attained a membership of but 70 during the first twelve years of its existence. Its finances were more conservatively managed, however, the funds being devoted exclusively to the original purpose of sick benefits and funeral aid.

The Independent Order of Svithiod

Organizations similar to the Svea Society were formed from time to time among the Swedish population of Chicago and other communities in Illinois, but not until the '80s did the idea of forming a federated body of Swedish societies or lodges patterned after the American beneficiary orders, reach the point of realization.

The first step in this move was taken by one Simon Hallberg, who took the initiative in the organization of the Independent Order of Svithiod. On Dec. 3, 1880, he called together a few friends, eight in number, who took favorably to the plan he laid before them. They then and there constituted themselves into a society, or the nucleus of a society, which adopted the name of Svithiod. The name had been borne by a prior Scandinavian society, then on the point of dissolution. The new society increased and prospered and soon felt the need of a charter. Articles of incorporation were submitted, and on Sept. 2, 1881, the secretary of state issued incorporation papers for The Independent Order of Svithiod. The charter, granted under the Revised Statutes

of 1874, is a liberal one and all the more valuable as later legislation has narrowed the rights and privileges of similar orders.

The constitution adopted laid down these fundamental provisions: The purpose of the order shall be to unite in brotherly love and co-operation Swedish men of sound health and good character, to exercise among its members an influence for moral betterment and to render material benefits, to give assistance to members in need and affliction and to pay, upon the death of members, certain beneficiary sums to their nearest kin.

The aforementioned Simon Hallberg was the first president, or Grand Master, of the order, serving up to Jan. 1, 1882, when he retired from office, but not from active work in behalf of the order. His career, however, was unexpectedly cut short by his death on the following 7th of July, at the age of thirty-two years.

In spite of the loss of its organizer and energetic promoter, the order continued its wholesome growth by the aid of other leaders. Among the men who have since carried forward the work no one has earned more credit than Axel Blomfeldt, who succeeded to the post of Grand Master. By New Year's, 1885, the Order of Svithiod numbered 200 members and its funds amounted to $4,000. That year John P. Johnson was elected Grand Master, succeeded later by Bernard Peterson, both of whom are still active members of the brotherhood.

During succeeding years the members by removals became scattered far and wide throughout the city, making it less convenient for them to meet in a common hall. Up to 1889 they had met in the North Side Turner Hall, but at this time members living in Lake View and on the west side, petitioned for authority to organize branch lodges in their respective neighborhoods. Extension work was then taken up with the result that Manhem Lodge No. 2, I. O. S., was organized Oct. 11th, and Verdandi Lodge No. 3, Oct. 25, 1890. Within the next three years as many other new lodges were added, the first lodge during that time acting as grand lodge, under which were subordinated the other five. These additions were, Mimer No. 4, Oct. 3, 1891, Frithiof No. 5, Dec. 25, 1891, and Gylfe No. 6, March 25, 1893.

At this stage of development the members began to realize the need of a representative central organization or grand lodge, to transact the common affairs of the order. This agreed, a committee was set to work revising the constitution with the desired end in view. After three months the work was completed, and on June 25, 1893, the Grand Lodge of the I. O. S. was organized with appropriate ceremonies. Its first set of officers were the following: High Grand Master, Axel Blomfeldt, Verdandi Lodge, High Grand Secretary, Bernard Peterson, Svithiod Lodge, High Grand Treasurer, John Peterson, Verdandi Lodge. The following named gentlemen constituted the first executive board:

Gust. Oman, H. E. Hanson, S. Franson, Frank Lindquist and John P. Johnson. The Grand Lodge met in annual convention in February, 1894, for the first time.

The organization of the grand lodge marks the beginning of a period of greater progress for the order. Up to this time the membership had reached only 750, although the organization dated its existence back a dozen years. Its growth during the subsequent period of almost fifteen years is far beyond comparison, as shown by the records up to November, 1908, when the total membership exceeded six thousand and the number of lodges had reached thirty-nine.

On July 22, 1894, the order was extended beyond the limits of Chicago and the boundaries of the state of Illinois, by the organization of the Björn Lodge No. 7, in East Chicago, Ind. While the membership grew constantly, no new lodge was formed for nearly three years from that time, the Ring Lodge No. 8 being organized May 29, 1897. This was followed by the Hilding Lodge No. 9, of Roseland, March 20, 1898. From now on new lodges were started in more rapid succession, namely, four in 1899, two during each of the following two years, three in 1902, five in 1903, two in 1904, one in 1905, six in the banner year of 1906, three in 1907, and two in the present year. The order has not adhered to the original practice of designating its lodges by names from the Norse mythology, but genuinely Swedish names are commonly adopted, a few local names forming exceptions to this rule.

The subsequent lodges, with location and date of organization of each, are as follows:

Odin Lodge No. 10, Joliet, Ill., Sept. 16, 1899; Thor Lodge No. 11, Chicago Heights, Ill., Oct. 22, 1899; Balder Lodge No. 12, Cragin, Ill., Nov. 11, 1899; Stockholm Lodge No. 13, Chicago, Dec. 30, 1899; Svea Lodge No. 14, West Pullman, Ill., May 19, 1900; Linden Park Lodge No. 15, Moreland, Ill., Oct. 6, 1900; Frej Lodge No. 16, Moline, Ill., March 16, 1901; Vasa Lodge No. 17, Galesburg, Ill., May 25, 1901; Nore Lodge No. 18, Chicago, March 9, 1902; Andree Lodge No. 19, South Chicago, Ill., Aug. 17, 1902; Irving Park Lodge No. 20, Irving Park, Oct. 19, 1902; Linné Lodge No. 21, Hegewisch, Ill., Jan. 27, 1903; Tegnér Lodge No. 22, Harvey, Ill., Feb. 7, 1903; John Ericsson Lodge No. 23, Rockford, Ill., June 28, 1903; Götha Lodge No. 24, Kansas City, Mo., Sept. 12, 1903; Norden Lodge No. 25, Kewanee, Ill., Oct. 3, 1903; Gustaf Adolf Lodge No. 26, Rock Island, Ill., April 16, 1904; Skandia Lodge No. 27, Evanston, Ill., Oct. 28, 1904; Monitor Lodge No. 28, Elburn, Ill., April 1, 1905; Brage Lodge No. 29, Peoria, Ill., Jan. 14, 1906; Thule Lodge No. 30, Chicago, May 12, 1906; Valhalla Lodge No. 31, Galva, Ill., May 30, 1906; Sten Sture Lodge No. 32, Maywood, Ill., June 9, 1906; Ymer Lodge No. 33, Minneapolis, Minn., Sept. 17, 1906; Engelbrekt Lodge No. 34, La Grange, Ill., Dec. 31, 1906; St. Paul Lodge



Delegates to the Grand Lodge, I. O. S., 1905

No. 35, St. Paul, Minn., Jan. 21, 1907; Spiran Lodge, No. 36, Danville, Ill., April 30, 1907; Vega Lodge No. 37, Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 28, 1907; Oscar II. Lodge No. 38, Minneapolis, Minn., April 26, 1908; Englewood Lodge No. 39, Chicago, Oct. 23, 1908.

Under the original charter the order had no authority to levy assessments for the creation of a reserve fund. Many members saw in the absence of such a guaranty fund a danger, which ought to be removed. This was done when on April 17, 1901, the order agreed to comply with the new insurance law of 1893 and thereupon obtained a license to do business under its provisions, including legal reserve regulations.

On June 2, 1901, the constitution was so amended as to provide for the creation of a reserve fund by setting aside for that purpose five per cent of the proceeds of each and every assessment. At the annual meeting of the Grand Lodge in February, 1903, this amount was changed to ten per cent.

Up to December, 1898, each member of the order was insured for $500. At this time the amount of insurance per capita was raised to $1,000. In 1902 Class B. was added, for those desiring to have $500 insurance policies. Four years later, in 1906, Class C. was instituted for those desiring a $100 policy.

The Svithiod order pursues the plan of furnishing insurance at actual cost. The average cost per $1,000 is about 85 cents per month. The current expenses of the grand and subordinate lodges are defrayed by income from other sources. The quarterly dues to lodges average $1.50, making $6 per year. From these funds sick and funeral benefits and lodge expenses are paid. The sick and funeral benefits are the same to all members, regardless of the insurance class to which they belong. The amount of the assessments is not permanently fixed, but may be varied according to necessity, whereby ample funds are always assured. The privilege of determining the amount of sick benefits and other aid to be paid to members is vested in the individual lodges, which likewise have full charge of their own treasuries and property.

The most recent reports show the following status of the order: Total membership, 6,015; insurance in force, $4,746,000; reserve fund, $23,677.93; other funds, $9,857.09; cash assets of subordinate lodges, about $68,000; insurance paid out during the existence of the order, in 308 death benefits, $293,455; sick benefits, about $144,000; funeral benefits, about $32,000; charitable donations, about $14,000.

The chief officers of the order have been: High Grand Master—Axel Blomfeldt, John Wolgren, John P. Johnson, Olof Pearson, Fred Franson, H. E. Hanson, Joseph G. Sheldon, C. A. Carlson; High Grand Secretary—Bernard Peterson, John Wolgren, Hjalmar Hedin, John A. Sandgren; High Grand Treasurer—John Peterson, Gust Johnson, Linus Olson, Axel Blomfeldt, H. E. Hanson.

The Swedish-American Press Club

In the year 1890 a plan long talked of among the Swedish newspaper men of Chicago was realized by the organizing of a press club for their mutual pleasure and profit. At a preliminary meeting held on May 29th, and attended by a dozen men, A. L. Gyllenhaal presiding and Herman Lenmmalm acting as secretary, the feasibility of bringing the Swedish writers and publishers into closer social intercourse, was discussed. The result of the deliberation was that the proposed club should be organized, and at a meeting held at the Sherman House on the 12th day of July, 1890, Svensk-amerikanska Publicistklubben was called into existence. The members for a time fraternized cordially and for a period of three years or thereabout, the club held fairly regular weekly meetings, whereupon meetings grew less frequent and ultimately ceased altogether. Waning interest in general and personal friction in particular cases seem to have been the disintegrating factors. Alex. J. Johnson, publisher of "Svenska Kuriren," as said to have been the last president, and the last official act of the club on record was the sending of representatives to attend the funeral of a colleague in Minneapolis. The obsequies of the club itself, however, were never held and it might be revived at any time, without prejudice to its constitution and by-laws.

The Independent Order of Vikings

Second in size among the purely fraternal Swedish orders of Chicago and the state of Illinois stands the Independent Order of Vikings. It dates its origin from the year 1890, when on June 2nd the Viking Society was organized with an original membership of eleven persons, as follows: Charles Carlson, G. A. Carlson, Charles Henry, N. Hallerts, Aug. Johnson, Gust. Johnson, V. Muerling, Ed. Muerling, C. H. Victorin, R. Waldén and Aug. Waldén. Their purpose was no other than social intercourse on the basis of universal brotherhood. In a short time they added the sick benefit and funeral aid features, realizing the value of mutual assistance as a factor in knitting a close fellowship.

For the first few months the society met at the homes of members, but by October of the same year, having outgrown the capacity of the homes, it engaged a hall at Sedgwick and Sigel streets for the monthly meetings.

The uniforms and regalia adopted by the Viking Society were patterned after the costumes of the Viking age, and at their first public appearance, in the parade that took place on the day the Linné monument was unveiled, the Vikings mustered a large force and made a splendid showing for a society but a year old.

When the membership had reached four hundred the society set about changing its organization for the purpose of enlarging its scope. The revised constitution and by-laws were adopted in September, 1892, and on the third of October the Grand Lodge of the Independent Order of Vikings was organized to become the central organization of subordinate lodges. Among its principal purposes were also the establishment of a readingroom, promoting the circulation of wholesome literature among the members and the founding of a common death benefit fund, amounting to life insurance.

Two months after the reorganization a second lodge was started, known as Brage Lodge No. 2. During the course of the winter three other lodges were organized, namely, Drake Lodge No. 3, Angantyr Lodge No. 4 and Frej Lodge No. 5. The names selected were Norse, and this system of nomenclature has been consistently adhered to ever since.

When the time was ripe for the establishment of the insurance plan it was found advisable to secure a new charter, the old one being deemed inadequate to safeguard the rights and privileges of members. In the spring of 1895 a new charter was applied for, under the insurance law of 1893, the requirements of which were full met on the 30th day of November following, when the Independent Order of Vikings was given a certificate of incorporation as a legally organized fraternal beneficiary society. The incorporators under the new plan were: Andrew A. Carlson, Otto Anderson, Alexander Holm, Nels L. Anderson, Gustavus J. Bird, Gustavus Myhrman, Peter G. Almberg, Andrew Söderlin, John Anderson and Bengt A. Wester. The new insurance plan of the order was put in force Jan. 1, 1896.

The first roster of officers of the grand lodge was as follows: Grand Chief, A. Holm; Vice Grand Chief, C. Victorin; Grand Secretary, Alfred Carlson; Grand Treasurer, P. A. Noren; Grand Organizer, G. Carlson.

In 1901 the order extended its activities beyond the confines of Chicago and Cook county by organizing the Thor Lodge in Moline. Later it went outside the state and now extends west as far as Omaha, Neb. On July 29, 1908, the thirty-first lodge was organized, completing the following list:

Vikingarne No. 1, 1890, Brage No. 2, 1892, Drake No. 3, Angantyr No. 4, Frej No. 5, 1893, Frithiof No. 6, Runan No. 7, 1899, Odin No. 8, 1900, all in Chicago, Thor No. 9, Moline, Svea No. 10, Chicago, Norden No. 11, Waukegan, all in 1901, Balder No. 12, DeKalb, Harald No. 13, Chicago, Götha No. 14, Roseland, Ragnar No. 15, Chicago, Hilding No. 16, Aurora, in 1903, Bele No. 17, Chicago Heights, Ring No. 18, Batavia, in 1904, Thorsten No. 19, Joliet, Björn No. 20, South Omaha, Valhalla



R. Walden
Aug. Johnson
Chas. Carlson
Gust Johnson
Ed. Muerling
N. Halletts
C. H. Victorin
Chas Henry
G. A. Carlson
Aug. Walden
V. Muerling

The Viking Society, 1890

No. 21, Chicago, Niord No. 22, Kewanee, Hjalmar No. 23, Evanston, Orvar Odd No. 24, Omaha, in 1905, Ellida No. 25, Rockford, Yngve No. 26, Chicago, Ivar No. 27, Chicago, Vasa No. 28, Hammond, Ind., in 1906, Thyr No. 29, Galesburg, Sigurd No. 30, Kenosha, in 1907, Brejdablik No. 31, Milwaukee, Wis., in 1908.

The men who have held the chief offices in the order are: Grand Chief—Alex. Holm, Alfred Carlson, Eric Forsell, Axel Borg, A. W. Johnson, Herman Carlson, Frithiof Malmquist; Grand Secretary—Alfred Carlson, Otto Anderson, Nils J. Lindskoog, Eric Forsell, Anders Hessel; Grand Treasurer—P. A. Noren, Gust Bird, N. L. Anderson, A. W. Johnson, O. F. Sandstedt, Eric Forsell, Herman Carlson, John Anderson; Grand Organizer—Gustaf A. Carlson, Otto Anderson, Alex. Holm, P. A. Anderson, Nils J. Lindskoog, Fred L. Pearson, Anders Hemwall.

The order publishes a monthly paper, "Vikingen," as the common organ of the lodges. Its first number was issued May 15, 1899.

There exists a woman's auxiliary known as the Grand Lodge of the Independent Order of Ladies of Vikings having nine lodges under its jurisdiction.

The reports for Oct. 1, 1908, show a total membership of 4,538, a reserve fund of $6,198.06, an assessment fund of $14,835.94 and a total balance in the lodge treasuries of $40,045.12.

The Swedish Societies' Old People's Home Association

The initiative to the formation of a federation of Swedish societies in Chicago for charitable purposes was taken in 1893 by Dr. C. W. Johnson, a physician, and Hans Anderson, a jeweler. This was in the time of great need among the laboring population, and after the definite organization in April, 1894, of the federation, which was named The Swedish Societies' Central Association, its first care was to provide for Swedish workingmen who were suffering want as a result of the prevailing hard times. On May 19th the association gave an entertainment at Svea Hall, netting about $28—the first money realized by it for benevolent purposes. In August a state charter was secured and that fall, with the proceeds of an excursion to Milwaukee and a popular concert at the Auditorium, the association entered upon the aforesaid charity work.

With improved conditions in 1896, the association began to map out another field of work, that of caring for indigent Swedish people in their old age. For the purpose of founding a home for the aged, a fund was established May 17, 1896, starting with the sum of $700. With the net proceeds of picnics, excursions, concerts and other entertainments, as also by individual donations, this fund was kept growing



The Swedish Old People's Home at Park Ridge

for the next few years. In 1898 a committee was appointed to look up a suitable site for an old people's home, and on March 19, 1899, they were instructed to purchase a building and grounds at Park Ridge, which have since been occupied by the institution known as the Swedish Old People's Home at Park Ridge. The deal was closed April



Prominent Workers of the Old People's Home Association

26th, and on Oct. 7, 1900, the home was dedicated and in readiness for the reception of occupants. Miss Anna Anderson, a trained nurse, was engaged as superintendent and housekeeper. The first inmate was admitted the following December, others being received from time to time until the institution, which has accommodations for a score of

persons, was taxed to its full capacity. The last payment on the property was made in April, 1905, and an inventory of the institution, as it stands today, shows a property value of about $12,000.

The property purchased in 1900 comprised a two story brick building of nineteen rooms and a block of ground 150 feet square. The purchase price was $4,500. Considerable sums of money were expended in renovating and furnishing the building for occupation and a number of societies and individuals undertook to furnish certain rooms at their own expense. A new heating plant was installed, cement walks have been laid and other costly improvements made. In 1908 about $9,000 for the home was realized through a bazaar, making a total of over $10,000 in the treasury of the home at the present time. Plans are under way looking to the extension of the institution either by building an addition on the present site or erecting a structure on acre property in some other locality near Chicago.

In 1908, to specify the object for which the organization exists and works, its name was changed to the Swedish Societies' Old People's Home Association, while a change was made in the constitution so as to admit to membership not only societies and lodges but individuals of a charitable bent. Beyond raising funds for the purpose above named, the association has made several contributions to other charities, including the sum of $166, in 1894, to the Pullman Fund, and at a subsequent occasion $500 to the Swedish Home of Mercy in Bowmanville, Chicago.

A Ladies' Guild was organized in 1899, which has ably seconded the efforts of the main organization.

The Swedish National Association

The organization which has existed for fifteen years under the name of the Swedish National Association of Chicago was called into existence by a tragedy. On Christmas eve, 1893, Swan Nelson, a Swedish-American, was murdered in cold blood by Moran and Healy, two ruffianly members of the Chicago police force. The crime stirred the fellow countrymen of the victim, and a movement was set on foot to raise funds for the prosecution of the culprits. Heading the movement and most active in the cause were F. A. Lindstrand, the publisher, and Frederick Lundin. These two men appeared in a large number of Swedish churches and lodge halls in all parts of Chicago for the purpose of enlisting general interest. By this method quite a sum was raised, but it proved inadequate and other means had to be resorted to. It was then that the plan for an association to fight the battle of justice took shape, and on May 25, 1894, the Swedish National Association was organized, with F. A. Lindstrand as chairman and Erik Thelin as

secretary. In the same month a musical festival was held which filled the Auditorium to overflowing and yielded a substantial addition to the fund. After a long and costly trial, in which the prosecution was conducted by Luther Laflin Mills and Harry Olson, the association triumphed by securing the conviction of the criminals.

As a permanent reason for its existence, the association later in the year 1894 established a free employment bureau, which it has maintained ever since. From the outset this has been managed by Mrs. Othelia Myhrman. The organization is composed of an active and executive membership, together with delegates from local organizations in Chicago and Cook county. After some time Mr. Lundin's interest in the association flagged, but Mr. Lindstrand remained its chief backer. Time and again he has gone down into his own pocket to cover deficits in its treasury, and it is more than likely that but for him the association would not now be in existence.

Mr. Lindstrand served as president until January, 1897, when, contingent on his foreign travels, he resigned the place and was succeeded by O. C. Peterson. In 1900 he was again elected to the place and served until 1906. Upon his resignation, George E. Q. Johnson served as acting president that year and was elected for the following year. In 1908, G. Bernhard Anderson succeeded to the presidency.

The association has had no fixed income, depending on public festivals for means to carry on its work. A midwinter and a midsummer festival have been held regularly every year. The first winter festival was an international tournament of song, male choruses of seven nationalities participating and the Swedish Svithiod Singing Club winning the championship. Subsequent winter festivals have been of the following character: 1896, historical tableaux; 1897, commemoration of the silver wedding anniversary of the King and Queen of Sweden; 1898-9, historical tableaux; 1900, "Frithiof och Ingeborg," an opera presented three successive evenings; 1901, "Vermländingarne," a popular drama, with Ragna Linné and John R. Örtengren in the leading parts; 1902, "Engelbrekt och hans dalkarlar," an historical drama; 1903, concert by the Düring Ladies' Quintette; 1904, dramatic production of Jules Verne's "Around the World in Eighty Days;" 1905, concert by the Swedish Singers' Union of Chicago and historical tableaux; 1906, lecture by Dr. Otto Nordenskjöld on his antarctic explorations; 1907, exhibition of Swedish national dances by a troupe of dancers from Skansen in Stockholm; 1908, historical drama, "Gustaf Adolf och Regina von Emmeritz," with John R. Örtengren and Ida Östergren in the title roles. The midsummer festivals have been in the nature of picnic excursions to out-of-town parks. That of 1907 was made especially notable by the presence of Herman Lagercrantz, the Swedish envoy at Washington. The foregoing two were held jointly

with the Swedish Singers' Union. Extra entertainments and concerts have been arranged by the association as follows: 1902, benefit concert to provide funds for the defense of Anton Nelson, arrested for shooting one Prendergast, indicted for manslaughter and acquitted on the ground of self-defense, through the efforts of the association; 1905, concerts by students' chorus from the Lund University; 1906, concerts by the chorus of the Young Men's Christian Association of Sweden; 1908, concerts by the military band of the Kronoberg Regiment of the Swedish army.

The third fight for justice wherein the association has been engaged was in the case of John Nordgren, who, after having been sentenced to thirty years in the penitentiary for the alleged crime of poisoning his wife, was given a new trial and acquitted of the charge after having remained in jail two years. In connection with the free employment bureau the association extends charity in various forms to unfortunate and needy Chicagoans of Swedish extraction.

The Swedish-American Republican League

The Swedish-American Republican League of Illinois was organized in December, 1894, and incorporated on the 31st day of the same month. Its has for its general purpose the propagation of the principles of the Republican party, while its specific object is the political education and advancement of the Swedish-Americans.

For years the Swedish-Americans, generally loyal Republicans, performed the duties of citizenship without belonging to any specific organizations of their own. In time, they found it expedient to organize themselves into local clubs wherever the number of Swedish voters warranted such a step. In Rockford, Moline, Galesburg, and at other points such clubs sprang up and in Chicago a number of ward clubs were combined into a central Republican club of Cook county. The suggestion was next made that a state organization be formed, with ramifications in the various counties, this to be a representative body that might speak for the great bulk of the Swedish voters of the state. In the fall of 1894 this idea, at first broached tentatively, ripened into action. A meeting was called for Dec. 4th, and that day saw the birth of a Swedish state league. Among those who were present and took active part in the proceedings of the organization meeting were: Edward C. Westman, Will S. Hussander, Charles H. Hoglund, C. A. Edwardts, and Gustaf L. Nelson, of Cook county; M. O. Williamson and A. W. Truedson of Knox county; A. L. Anderson and John S. Smith of Henry county; Rev. C. O. Gustafson of Will county; George W. Johnson, Frank A. Landee, Alfred Anderson, Frank A. Johnson, C. G. Carlson and G. L. Peterson, of Rock Island county, and A. J. Anderson,

L. M. Noling and Carl Ebbesen, of Winnebago county. An organization was perfected by the election of officers, as follows: president, Edward C. Westman, Chicago; vice president, Hjalmar Kohler, Moline; secretary, Will S. Hussander, Chicago; treasurer, A. L. Anderson, Andover. The league was first planned by the leading men of the central club of Cook county, the most active and energetic of whom was Mr. Westman, and his election as the first president of the new organization was merely just recognition of his activity in bringing it about.

The league is a body made up of delegates from local clubs and from communities where a considerable number of Swedish-American



Edward C. Westman

citizens reside. The basis of representation is one delegate for the first one hundred voters of Swedish descent and one additional delegate for every three hundred such voters. The representation is by counties, and wherever an organization exists among them, it governs the selection of delegates.

In determining the time for holding the annual convention the organizers hit upon the happy idea of combining with it the celebration of some memorable event, and in selecting March 9th, the day on which was fought in 1862 the historic battle between the Merrimac and the Monitor, they found in the greatest single achievement of a Swedish-American, an excellent cause for celebration. Thus was instituted the

commemoration of John Ericsson Day among the Swedes of Illinois. The sequel to every convention of the league, and the feature of the occasion, has been a banquet at which the name of the great engineer and inventor is invariably toasted. These banquets, planned on a grand scale, are always largely attended, and many of them have been brilliant affairs, at which governors, senators, members of the President's cabinet, the famous orators and wits of the nation, and even rival candidates for high offices, have fraternized under the intertwining flags of Sweden and the United States. Moreover, many favorable opportunities have been offered for representative Swedish-Americans to appear, as it were, in an open forum, to plead their cause and air their grievances, if any, before men of large calibre, open minds, high station and a wide sphere of influence. Generally speaking, the social and intellectual intercourse at these political feasts have proved profitable to both the hosts and the guests.

The league convened for the first time on March 9, 1895, at Chicago. The business sessions were held in an assembly hall in the Masonic Temple. One hundred and nineteen delegates were seated and an equal number of alternates were accredited, representing the Swedish voters of eighteen counties of the state. The first officers of the league were all re-elected for the succeeding year. The convention was followed by the John Ericsson memorial banquet, given at the Grand Pacific Hotel under the auspices of the Swedish-American Central Republican Club of Cook County. Subsequently conventions have been held in the following cities in the order named: 1896, Rockford; 1897, Chicago; 1898, Paxton; 1899, Aurora; 1900, Joliet; 1901, Galesburg; 1902, Bloomington; 1903, Princeton; 1904, Moline; 1905, Peoria; 1906, Chicago; 1907, Rockford; 1908, Aurora.

A list of the presidents of the league from its inception follows: Edward C. Westman; M. O. Williamson, Galesburg; Frank G. Stibb, Rockford; Frank A. Landee, Moline; C. A. Nordgren, Paxton; Edwin A. Olson, Chicago; A. W. Truedson, Galesburg; Carl R. Chindblem, Chicago; M. A. L. Olson, DeKalb; Julius Johnson, Lynn; P. A. Peterson, Rockford; Justus L. Johnson, Aurora; Oscar D. Olson, Chicago.

In the great campaign of 1896 a committee from the league was in charge of a Swedish bureau at the headquarters of the Republican national committee in Chicago. An idea of the work accomplished by this bureau is gained from the fact that from it were sent out 7,300 letters, 789,975 books and documents and 700,000 copies of newspapers. But for this committee the Swedish Republican vote in Illinois and other states in that election doubtless would have been materially lessened. In 1900 the league aided in the election of M. O. Williamson, one of its ex-presidents, to the office of state treasurer, and it has made its influence felt in a number of instances.



Twelfth Annual John Ericsson Day Banquet, Auditorium, Chicago, March 9, 1906

At the outset the league undertook to publish a paper to promote its interests. G. Bernhard Anderson was chosen editor, and one issue of the paper, which was named the "Monitor News," was published in 1895, but a second number never appeared. A few years ago the league began to plan for the erection of a monument to John Ericsson, and an organization was formed to solicit funds. Some progress has been made, but the project is yet far from a realization.

Probably the most brilliant event in the life of the league was the great Ericsson memorial banquet in 1906, at the Auditorium Hotel, Chicago, when about 800 persons sat at table and Charles J. Bonaparte, secretary of the navy, graced the occasion with his presence.

The Swedish Historical Society of America

Cultured Swedish-Americans years ago realized the desirability of having the records of their nationality written and preserved for posterity and the need of an organized body to make systematic efforts to that end. In the year 1889 a number of representative men in Chicago sought to fill this want by associating themselves into an organization which was named The Swedish-American Historical Society. Several of its members are known to have engaged in historical writing both before and after that time, but the society as such never went on record except in the list of Illinois corporations.

In 1905 other persons, sensible of the need of immediate and active work for the preservation of all things historical pertaining to the Swedes of America, took up an identical project. One or two of the founders of the first society joined in the movement for a second, manifestly acting on the assumption that the prior organization had passed out of existence. A preliminary meeting was held in the early summer of 1905, at which the plan was outlined. Among the participants in the action then taken were: Aksel G. S. Josephson, L. G. Abrahamson, J. A. Enander, Louis G. Northland, Anders Schön and Ernst W. Olson. An organization committee headed by Dr. Abrahamson was appointed, and it was resolved to meet again during the Swedish singers' convention in July to perfect the organization. This was done at a meeting held on July 22, 1905, in the rooms of the Chicago Historical Society, Dr. Abrahamson presiding and Mr. Josephson acting as secretary. At that time a constitution was adopted, setting forth the objects for which the society was formed and the mode of operation. The name adopted was, The Swedish-American Historical Society. The objects, as briefly defined are:

To promote the study of the history of the Swedes in America and their descendants;

To collect a library and museum illustrating their development;

To issue publications relating to the history of the Swedish people in Sweden and America;

To encourage the study of Swedish history and literature in American universities.

Membership is conditioned on the payment of an annual fee of two dollars, and life membership is granted upon the payment, in one



Dr. Josua Lindahl

sum, of fifty dollars. The affairs of the society are in the hands of a council of fifteen members, empowered to elect among their number the customary officers.

The council selected on this occasion first met on August 29th, when as the first set of officers of the society, the following gentlemen were elected: President, Dr. Johan A. Enander, Chicago; vice president, Dr. Gustav Andreen, Rock Island; secretary, Anders Schön, Chicago; treasurer, Aksel G. S. Josephson, Chicago.

In January, 1906, the council took action looking to the immediate establishment of a library in Chicago and inviting donations of books, newspapers, manuscripts, engravings and photographs of value as

material pertinent to Swedish-American history or of interest for their associations with Swedish and American culture.

The first annual meeting was held in the Chicago Historical Society building on March 28, 1906. On that occasion Eric Norelius and Johan A. Enander, were elected honorary members in recognition of their achievements in the field of historical writing. As a guide for those willing to aid in building up the proposed library, a schedule designating what it should contain was made up and approved, as follows: 1) books dealing with Swedish colonization on and immigration to the American continent and its adjacent islands; 2) books by Swedish-Americans; 3) publications of Swedish-American publishing houses; 4) publications of Swedish-American institutions, churches, schools, societies, lodges, etc.; 5) Swedish books dealing with America; 6) American books dealing with Sweden; 7) translations of works of Swedish authors into English, and of works of American authors into Swedish; 8) original records, or manuscript copies of such records, if not already printed, of Swedish-American churches, societies, lodges, labor unions, etc.; 9) photographs of Swedish-Americans who have made their mark in this country, as well as of buildings of interest on account of their associations with the Swedish people in America, such as churches, school and college buildings, hospitals, homes of old settlers, etc.; 10) a selection of the most important works on Swedish history and literature, so that this library might in time become the recourse for all who desire to make a study of the history, literature and civilization of Sweden.

A total of 118 members for the first year was reported. Eliminations for failure to fulfill the pecuniary obligation, however, reduced this number to a net total of about 80. The present membership is about 140.

At the annual meeting in 1908 it was resolved to change the form of the name and to incorporate as The Swedish Historical Society of America, which was done. There was then a nucleus for a library which has since grown to over one thousand numbers, inclusive of smaller pamphlets and periodicals. The first yearbook had been issued, embracing the first two years of the society's existence, and the young society was shown to have made at least a fair start. Hampered by a dearth of funds, its progress heretofore has been slow, yet there is evidence that both men and means may be counted on for the furtherance of a cause so vital to the interests of the Swedish people everywhere on the American continent.

As president of the society each of the following named persons have served in turn: Johan A. Enander, C. G. Lagergren, C. G. Wallenius, Josua Lindahl; as vice president, Gustav A. Andreen, J. S. Carl-

son, C. G. Wallenius, Ernst W. Olson; as secretary, Anders Schön, A. G. S. Josephson, Joseph G. Sheldon; as treasurer, A. G. S. Josephson, John R. Lindgren.

The Swedish Historical Society of America has taken up a field of activity as wide as the continent and reaching back almost to the beginning of civilized order in America. It is planned on the broadest lines and to it no political, social or sectarian boundaries exist. It looks to all Swedish-American men and women of intelligent interest in the history and achievements of their race and nationality to aid in the attainment of its high aims.



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ERRATA

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163. For "Lundquist" read "Lundqvist."
190. For "odius," read "odious."
192. For "eighteenth century," read "nineteenth century."
207, 209, 235. Footnotes are quoted from Lundqvist, P. N., and not, as stated, from Landgren.
274, 276. For "Kassel," read "Cassel."
413. For "Epicopalian," read "Episcopalian."
437. For "captain," read "second lieutenant."
601. For "Missions Friends," read "Mission Friends."
729. For "Gustaf Stolape," read "Gustaf Stolpe."

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HISTORY

OF THE

Swedes of Illinois

PART II

Biographical Sketches

WITH PORTRAITS

CHICAGO

Edited by

ERNST W. OLSON and MARTIN J. ENGBERG

CHICAGO

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INTRODUCTION

IN order to bring the foregoing History of the Swedes of Illinois down to date it has been supplemented by a collection of biographical sketches of representative Swedish-Americans "in the living present." In the preceding pages we have endeavored to record the achievements of the Swedish people of the state in the past. In the following is preserved a record of those Swedish-Americans who are now keeping up the march of progress, constantly adding new material to our annals. These biographies are of men and women prominent or fairly representative in church and state, in art, science and literature, in educational and benevolent work, in the learned professions, in commerce and industry, in agriculture and the trades, in short, people of every creditable walk in life.

More than a quarter century has elapsed since the first consistent attempt was made to collect and preserve in book form the past records of the Illinois Swedes. That volume is now rare and, though obsolete as to the biographical part, is a valuable source of information in personal history. The aim of the present work is still greater completeness in this respect, and much that may seem inessential and trivial in these sketches today will be appreciated in years to come.

Not every man has a taste for history nor every Swedish-American a care whether the records of his nationality are preserved. In rare instances persons worthy of a mention in the following pages may have been inadvertently omitted, but in the majority of cases omissions are owing to a lack of interest on the part of the individuals themselves.

To those who have responded favorably to the request for personal data and other information incorporated in this work the editors and publishers are deeply indebted for the successful performance of their task.

COOK COUNTY

CHICAGO

JOHN RICHARD LINDGREN was born in Chicago, Illinois, Feb. 20, 1855. His father was Charles



JOHN RICHARD LINDGREN

Magnus Lindgren, the well-known sea captain and shipowner, who for many years was a prominent figure in the Swedish colony of Chicago. Captain Lindgren died in Evanston Sept 1, 1879. His mother, née Johanna Anderson, passed away in that city March 23, 1887.

John Richard Lindgren, their only son, was educated in the grammar and high schools of Chicago, and entered business life as an insurance and vessel agent. In company with Helge A. Haugan, by descent a Norwegian, he founded the private banking firm of Haugan & Lindgren, December 8, 1879. The bank, which was located at 59 La Salle st., cor. Randolph, during the first few years transacted business almost exclusively with Scandinavian customers. The bank's business was conducted conservatively and grew from year to year. In 1883 its savings department had deposits amounting to $89,000. In 1890 the same department had deposits of more than $1,000,000. The firm in 1891 incorporated its business as the State Bank of Chicago. By 1897 the resources of the bank were upwards of $2,500,000. Four years later they were more than $7,000,000. At the present time the capital and surplus and undivided profits amount to $2,068,512 and the deposits are upwards of $18,000,000.

The State Bank of Chicago now has its offices in the Chamber of Commerce Building, occupying the entire first floor. Its customers are of all nationalities represented in the metropolis. Mr. Haugan is president and Mr. Lindgren is cashier of the institution.

In 1892 Mr. Lindgren was appointed Vice Consul of Sweden and Norway at Chicago, and still serves as Vice Consul of Sweden. By King Oscar II he has been decorated with the Order of Vasa. His residence is in Evanston,

where he has been city trustee and city treasurer. The Northwestern University has long had the benefit of his services as trustee. Mr. Lindgren is of pronounced musical tastes. He has been president of the Evanston Musical Club and the Apollo Musical Club of Chicago, and is a trustee of the Theodore Thomas Orchestra. Mr. Lindgren is a member of the council of the Swedish-American Historical Society. He belongs to the Union League Club and is a member of the Swedish Methodist Church. He was one of the founders of the Swedish Meth. Old People's Home, endowing it with a considerable sum of money. Mr. Lindgren was married June 25, 1898, to Ethel May Roe of Chicago who was born May 6, 1870. A daughter, Ethel, was born Jan. 1, 1905. The family residence is at 1224 Sheridan Road. Mr. Lindgren is a modest and unassuming man, fully worthy of the confidence reposed in him.

HENRY E. ACKERBURG

was born in Göteborg, Sweden, March 26, 1859. A few years later he came to America with his parents and located in Chicago. After attending public school, he drifted into the cigar business, first as errand boy, later as salesman. At the age of twenty-one he started in business for himself, which he has carried on successfully until he has built up a fine wholesale and retail cigar and tobacco trade. His place of business is at 186 Madison Street.

When smiling, Mr. Ackerburg's face bears a striking resemblance to that of President Roosevelt.



HENRY E. ACKERBURG

During the political campaign of 1900 Mr. Ackerburg was called upon by the Marquette Club to impersonate Roosevelt in the grand Republican Sound Money parade.

Mr. Ackerburg in 1888 married Miss Mary Van de Ven, who was born in Holland. They have three children, two boys and one girl.

Mr. Ackerburg is a thirty-second degree Mason, a Knight Templar, and a member of the Royal League and the Royal Arcanum.

PEHR S. PETERSON,

the most widely known Swedish horticulturist and nurseryman in America, was born near Kristianstad, Sweden, June 15, 1830. Until thirteen years of age he remained at home, attending the schools of his native town. He early

manifested a love of nature and his youth was given to acquiring a practical knowledge of horticul-



PEHR S. PETERSON

ture. After five years in the gardens of his native land, such as Öfveds Kloster, Maltesholm, he spent three years on the continent, in leading horticultural institutions at Hamburg, Erfurt and Ghent, studying at the latter place under the renowned horticulturist Van Houtte.

Coming to Toronto in 1851, he saw that the greatest chances for success lay in the United States and soon went to Rochester, then, as now, the center of the nursery interests of the country. There he obtained employment with Frost & Co., beginning at $8 a month and board. Within three years he had not only acquired the English language but was working for Ellwanger & Barry at the large salary, for those days, of $100 a month. Thinking to obtain riches faster by digging for gold than delving in nursery rows, in 1854 he went to California via Panama, but aside from budding a lot of fruit trees which still grow in Vancouver, the venture was productive of little save experience.

In 1856 Mr. Peterson established the present business, the Peterson Nursery, on a small piece of rented land some miles outside of the city limits. In the next year a ten-acre tract of woodland was purchased. The property has since been added to until it amounts to 496 acres, now the largest piece of acre property in Chicago, for in 1889 the entire holding was annexed to the city. It lies seven miles northwest of the City Hall and on it is one of the finest collections of ornamental stock in America. Here, in the course of years, Mr. Peterson found the gold he failed to find in California.

His attainments in horticulture found appreciation at home and abroad and have been recognized by many scientific societies. He was the second in over half a century to be elected an honorary member of the Horticultural Society of Stockholm, and the King of Sweden showed him signal honor in decorating him with the Order of Vasa. In 1865 Mr. Peterson was married to Mary A. Gage, of Boston. Their only child is Wm. A., who has been manager of the nursery since 1895. Since retiring from active business Mr. Peterson spent most of his time abroad. He died January 19, 1903, when the entire business was

handed down to Mr. Wm. A. Peterson, who conducts it on the lines laid down by his father.

The nursery office is at Lincoln and Peterson Avenues, and the city office at 108 La Salle st.

ARON EDSTRÖM,

associate editor of Hemlandet, was born in Edstorp, Ör parish, Dals-



ARON EDSTRÖM

land, Sweden, January 6, 1847. His early developed taste for books impelled him, aside from his regular studies, to read with avidity all the books he could borrow or find in the parish library. He studied English, German, algebra, and geometry without the help of a teacher. Before entering the confirmation class he surprised the grammar school teacher by exhibiting a knowledge equal to, and in some subjects exceeding, that of his master. At the age of sixteen he obtained employment in a saw-mill and within two years was master of his trade. In 1869 he was seized with the emigation fever and in company with his brother and other friends came over to this country. The party settled in the vicinity of Marine, Minn., joining friends previously located there. For three years he led a hard and laborious existence in lumber camps, saw-mills, on railroads, etc. Intending at this time to become a farmer in one of the rapidly developing communities of the Northwest, he took a homestead in Polk county, Wis. In August, 1872, he unfortunately lost his left hand in a saw-mill. This accident at once changed his plans for the future. His old desire for learning was revived. In December of the same year he entered St. Ansgar's Academy in Carver, now Gustavus Adolphus College, at St. Peter, Minn. In 1875 he entered the Freshman class at Augustana College, Rock Island, Ill., from whence he graduated with the class of '79. The following year he was chosen assistant editor of *Skaffaren*, now *Minnesota Stats Tidning*, published at St. Paul, afterwards acting as its editor in chief for one year, 1882–1883. In May of the latter year he accepted a position as associate editor of *Hemlandet*, of whose staff he has since been a member with the exception of eight months in 1890, when he edited *Nordens Medborgare*, a paper published in Manistee, Mich.

In 1882, Mr. Edström was married to Anna C. Greek, of Trade Lake, Wis., daughter of Lars and

Christina M. Greek. She died in 1898, leaving seven children, Edward, Esther, Thekla, Signe, Dagmar, Hilmer and Gustaf. The eldest daughter, Esther, is married to Dan J. McConnell.

In politics Mr. Edström is a rock-ribbed Republican. Since his arrival in this country he has been a member of the Augustana synod, and has served as deacon of his church for twelve years. In the course of his twenty-seven years' service as a member of the press Mr. Edström, while devoting himself chiefly to routine work, has written occasional literary sketches which have appeared in various periodicals. Among these are, "Sketches from Swedish-American Pioneer Life," which have appeared, partly in *Hemlandet* and partly in the annual, "Prärie-blomman."

NELS J. OLSON

was born in Egby, Öland, Sweden, June 18, 1844, being the son of Olof Abrahamson, a sailor. He lost his mother in 1849 and his father three years later. He discontinued school at twelve to learn the tailor's trade. At seventeen he opened his own shop at Egby and continued in the business there until 1872, when he came to America and, after working a few weeks in a brick yard at Haverstraw, N. Y., to Chicago. Having been employed by tailoring firms for about ten years he opened his own shop as merchant tailor 1883, in partnership with C. J. Olson. After conducting the business for sixteen years he sold out to his partner in 1899. Subsequently for ten months he held the position of foreman in a tailor-



NELS J. OLSON

ing house in Boston. After holding a foremanship in Chicago for another year, he retired from business.

Mr. Olson is a member of the Immanuel Swedish Lutheran Church since 1873 and has always been an active church worker. He is at present treasurer of the church and has served as deacon ten years and trustee seven years. He was a member of the church choir for twelve years, of the male chorus Lyran four years, and taught in the Sunday school for a long period.

April 11, 1874, he was married to Nellie Johnson, born Feb. 19, 1845, at Mjellby, Blekinge. The family numbers ten children, seven of whom are dead, those living are: Minnie Elizabeth, born May 4, 1878, married to Albert C.

Wahlgren; Esther Bethulia, born Feb. 19, 1880; and Carl Fridolph Nathanael, born Jan. 31, 1887.

The family residence is at 1451 King Place.

J. ALBERT ACKERBURG

was born in Göteborg, Sweden, Dec. 10, 1863, and came to Chicago immediately after the civil



J. ALBERT ACKERBURG

war. He attended public school and also the Swedish parochial school at the Immanuel Swedish Lutheran Church. In 1877 he entered the employ of Enander & Bohman, then publishers of the weekly *Hemlandet*, intending to learn the printers' trade. In 1879 he engaged in the boot and shoe business. For several years he has held the position of buyer and manager of shoe departments in in various large concerns. At present he represents Rothschild and Company in this capacity, having been in their employ for several years. Part of his many duties consists in going to the Boston and New York markets about six times a year to supply his department, which is rated as one of the most popular in Chicago.

Mr. Ackerburg resides at 947 Hood ave., Edgewater. He is married, has a son and daughter. He and his family are members of the Presbyterian Church. His political beliefs are those of the Republican party.

CHARLES J. STONE

was born in Nya Kopparberget, Örebro, Sweden, Sept. 11, 1851. He learned the tailor's trade under the direction of C. J. Hallin, in Örebro, and at the age of 18 years left his native country to seek his fortune in other lands. He went first to London, but finding oppor-



CHARLES J. STONE

tunities there too limited, he soon soon left for America locating in Chicago. Here he secured a po-

sition as coat maker with the firm of Edw. Ely & Co. In the meantime he learned the art of cutting, and in the spring of 1873 obtained a place as cutter with the firm of Roche & Co., where he remained for two years. Thereafter he served for two years with Wilde, Bluett & Co. During the years 1878-1880 he was foreman and designer for the wholesale firm of L. C. Wachsmuth & Co., and the following year for Willoughby, Hill & Co. From 1880-1885 he was the manager of the London Tailors, and in 1885-1890 was cutter for John O'Connell, and for the next two years manager and cutter for Stieglitz & Co.

In 1879 Mr. Stone started an evening school for cutters, which he expanded into a day school in 1888, which he entered into partnership with John and Harry Milner for this purpose. Four years later he bought out the interests of his partners, and has since managed the school alone. Its graduates are now to be found all over the world, its fame having reached to the Orient as well as Europe.

Mr. Stone has been deeply interested in every movement for the elevation and improvement of his profession. In 1893 he started a monthly known as The Practical Cutter and Tailor," which has acquired a wide trade circulation. He has also published a number of standard textbooks on designing, cutting, and manufacture of all sorts of clothing for men, women and children. These books have been translated into many languages, including the Japanese. As a lecturer on the art of cutting and tailoring, he has been particularly successful.

Mr. Stone is an honorary member of more than a score of tailors' and cutters' associations. Mr. Stone has been married twice, the first time with Miss Tillie Ferguson, with whom he had four sons, Charles J. Stone, Jr., Edward M., George H. and Stanley S. Stone, who now are interested in the cutting school with their father.

ANDREW PETER FORS,

Pastor of the Bethel Swedish Lutheran Church, was born Dec. 18, 1860, at Forsby, Vestra Tollstad parish, Östergötland, Sweden. His



ANDREW PETER FORS

parents are Andreas Pettersson, now a retired farmer, and Hilda Maria, née Nilsson, both still living in Sweden. He came to this country in

the spring of 1880. After a years' residence and study at Mankato, Minn., he entered Gustavus Adolphus College at St. Peter, Minn. After a period of study at this institution he went in 1884 to Augustana College, at Rock Island, Ill. During the years 1885-1887, he assisted Dr. T. N. Hasselquist in his church at Rock Island. Having graduated from Augustana College in 1887, he was chosen principal of the Augustana Academy at Salt Lake City, Utah, retaining that position until 1888, when he entered Augustana Theological Seminary. Graduating from the seminary he was ordained to the ministry June 16, 1889, at Moline, Ill. His first charge was at Wahoo, Neb., where he was also professor at Luther Academy during 1889–1890 and editor of *Wahoo-Bladet*. During 1891 he was pastor of the Emanuel Church at Rockford, Ill.

From 1892 to 1899 Mr. Fors was in charge of the Swedish Ev. Lutheran church at Geneseo, Ill. He earned the degree of A. M. at Augustana College in 1894. Since 1899 the Rev. Mr. Fors has been pastor of the Bethel Swedish Ev. Lutheran Church in Chicago and during his pastorate a new church and parsonage have been erected at the cost of $50,000. He pursued post-graduate studies at the University of Chicago from 1899 to 1902. The thesis for final promotion to the degree of Ph. D. was presented in April, 1904, the subject being, "The Ethical World-Conception of the Norse People."

Dr. Fors has written articles for the "Lutheran Cyclopedia," the *American Journal of Theology*, *Augustana* and *Augustana Journal*. He is the editor of *Bethel-Bladet*, a monthly paper for the members of Bethel Church. In 1894 he published "Rational Grounds of Christian Truth" and in 1904 his Doctor's thesis. He has written an extensive review of La Sausaye's "Teutonic Mythology."

Dr. Fors has served as chairman of the Southern Chicago District of the Illinois Conference of the Augustana Synod and of the Swedish Lutheran Ministerial Association of Chicago. He was for six years a member of the Augustana Church Extension Society and was its secretary from 1893 to 1899. He was a member of the Board of Directors of Augustana College from 1896 until 1900 and was elected secretary of the Board. Dr. Fors was a member of the Board of Directors of Augustana Hospital for the term 1902 to 1905. In 1904, he became interested in a movement resulting in founding a similar institution, the Englewood Hospital, organized on the south side. He is chairman of the board of directors and president of the Swedish-American Hospital Association that owns and controls the institution. Dr. Fors was also one of the prime movers in establishing the Oak Hill Cemetery in 1902, and is member of the Chicago Cemetery Association, which owns that property.

In 1889, Aug. 24, Dr. Fors was married to Miss Ada Emilia To-

line of Moline, Ill., born Dec. 13, 1860, daughter of Ulrik and Eva Toline, both of whom are deceased. Of three children born to Dr. and Mrs. Fors only one survives, a son, Adolph Fredrick, now a student of electrical engineering at the Armour Institute. The parsonage is at 6206 Peoria st.

GUSTAF ERNEST GORDON, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church, was born in Karlskrona,



GUSTAF ERNEST GORDON

Sweden, April 27, 1857. His parents were Gustaf Carlson and Marie Charlotta, née Malmberg; the father died in 1893. In his early boyhood, his parents decided that he should enter the clerical profession, and accordingly at the age of nine he entered the collegiate school of his native town, first having received his preparation in a private school. While at this institution he also took supplementary studies in Prof. A. Halk's evening school. After spending some years in the classical branches, his own desires did not accord with the plan mapped out by his parents, and thus it happens that we subsequently find him in the service of a large merchant, bent upon a business career. Soon after, he left Sweden, going to Germany in order to perfect himself in the language and learn the business conditions and methods of the country. Although exceptionally successful in the business sphere, it would seem that his mission lay in a different direction. After having had charge of a large wholesale and importing establishment for three years, he decided, and now on more mature thought, to enter the ministry. He joined the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1877. After having served the churches in Loftahammar-Wråka, Nyköping, Emmaboda, Vexiö and Stockholm as pastor, he came to this country in July, 1893. By the Northwestern Swedish Conference he was stationed at McKeesport, Pa., where he remained two years. His next charge was at Galva, Ill. After staying three years he was sent to Jamestown, where he labored for four years, and then was appointed to his present pastorate, the Elim M. E. Church, Lake View, Chicago, in the fall of 1902.

Feb. 12, 1881, Mr. Gordon was united in marriage to Sigrid Cecilia Carleson, daughter of Lars Carleson and his wife, Lovisa Albertina Grell. They have been blessed with six children, five of

whom are living. One son, Nathaniel I. Gordon, is general secretary of the Young Men's Christian Association, and is now fitting himself for the medical profession; the other, Seth E. Gordon, is a singer, now completing a vocal course at the Chicago Musical College. The other children living are Ruth Sigrid, Angeli Naomi, and Sigrid Elizabeth.

CARL ROBERT HVITFELDT

was born Oct. 5, 1873, in Göteborg, Sweden. At the age of six



CARL ROBERT HVITFELDT

he moved with his parents to Carlshamn, where he took the course of instruction offered at the collegiate school. He came to this country in 1888, landing on July 18, with Chicago as his final destination. After a couple of weeks he started in to learn wood engraving in the establishment of J. Manz and Co. Three years later he was employed as engraver by G. H. Benedict & Co., where he later advanced to foreman of the wood engraving department.

In January, 1906, Mr. Hvitfeldt and Mr. Joseph Herman organized the Calumet Engraving Co. Mr. Hvitfeldt now has his own office at 334 Dearborn st., where he makes a specialty of wood engraving.

CARL GUSTAF HERMAN LINDSKOG,

pastor of the St. Ansgarius Swedish Episcopal Church, was born in the historic city of Strängnäs, May 24, 1853. His preliminary education he received in the Katarina elementary school, and thereafter he attended the Stockholm Gymnasium, his parents having removed to the capital the same year the son was born. There the father



C. G. HERMAN LINDSKOG

took a position as teacher in the city's institute for waifs, retiring

with a pension after forty years service.

When but seventeen years old young Lindskog began preaching. He early became associated with the Methodists and was especially prominent in church work in Upsala and Jönköping. Mr. Lindskog was ordained as a pastor in 1875. Four years later he departed with his family for America where he located in Rockford, Ill., laboring there for eight years. In the spring of 1887 he accepted a call from the St. Ansgarius Swedish Episcopal Church of Chicago and the following year was installed as rector of that congregation. It may be stated that the St. Ansgarius Church, next to the "Old Swedes' Church," in Wilmington, Delaware, and the "Gloria Dei" Church in Philadelphia, is the oldest Swedish church in America. This church has sometimes been called "The Jenny Lind Church" because of the fact that the famous Swedish singer, when on her American tour, donated a considerable sum of money toward its support. In 1875, the year of his ordination to the ministry, the Rev. Mr. Lindskog was united in marriage to Adolphine Sheldon, of Karlskrona. They have three children living. The daughter, Karin Lindskog, is the organist of the church and is a talented violiniste.

Rector Lindskog dwells happily at 97 Sedgwick st., where, together with his ever faithful wife and genial children, he always meets his friends and parishioners with a hospitality which is characteristic of the cultured gentleman.

On May 24, 1907, the twentieth anniversary of Rev. Lindskog's assumption of his charge, the St. Ansgarius Church had a general celebration in his honor.

JOHN AMANDUS CARLSON

was born in Svennevad parish, Nerike, Sweden, Feb. 14, 1861.



JOHN AMANDUS CARLSON

Having joined the Baptist church in 1880, he went to London in 1883, where he organized a Swedish Baptist mission. After returning to Sweden in 1886, he emigrated to America in 1889 and settled in New York. He remained there until 1892, when he came to Chicago and entered the Swedish Baptist Theological Seminary at Morgan Park, graduating in 1895. While a student, he had charge of the Swedish Baptist Church at Sycamore, Ill. In the spring of

1895, Mr. Carlson accepted a call to the Swedish Baptist Church of Austin, which he has faithfully and successfully served ever since.

Mr. Carlson has been called to various positions of trust, such as member of the Board of Trustees of the Swedish Baptist General Conference and of the Board of Directors of the Swedish Baptist Mutual Benefit Society.

AUGUST WILHELM WELANDER

was born at Näsby, Skåne, Sweden, July 20, 1868. At an early age



AUGUST WILHELM WELANDER

he moved with his parents to Fjelkestad parish, where he was educated in the common school. When but six years old he lost his father. From early childhood he had decided to become a tailor and his mother taught him the rudiments of the trade. His journeyman course was taken at Kristianstad.

In 1887 he emigrated and located at Northfield, Minn., but the next year he went to Chicago, working with different tailoring concerns until 1891, when he established a merchant tailoring business. In 1893 he moved to Red Wing, Minn., and subsequently traveled through Sweden, Denmark, England and Canada teaching a new method of garment cutting. In the spring of 1897 he founded a cutting school in St. Paul and in 1898 established the "Western Tailor", a trade paper, now published as the "Western Tailor and Fashion Journal", twice a year. The next year Mr. Welander moved to Minneapolis, where he established a cutting and tailoring school for boy apprentices and his present Merchant Tailors' Pattern Service. In 1901 he published the "Merchant Tailor's Cyclopedia of Garment Cutting." The next year he removed his business to Chicago and since 1903 he has made headquarters in New York. The Chicago office is at 108 Washington st., and the New York establishment at 10 East 14 St. Mr. Welander married in 1890 and has two children.

ALEXANDER F. CARLSON

was born in Småland, Sweden, July 17, 1850. He removed to the city of Halmstad, in Halland, in 1867, and from there emigrated to America in 1872, settling in Wilcox Pa. Having traveled in a number of different states until 1875, he then settled in Kalamazoo, Mich. There he lived until 1882.

when he went to Chicago. He made a trip to Sweden in 1883-4. In 1890 he engaged in the retail furniture business, his firm being known as Carlson & Gardlund. Later the name was changed to A. F. Carlson & Son. The store is at 1129-1131 Belmont ave.

Mr. Carlson was married in 1893 to Hanna Keiding. In religion he is a Lutheran; in politics, a Republican.

LAWRENCE NELSON

was born in Skepparslöf, Skåne, Sweden, on April 25, 1862. In



LAWRENCE NELSON

company with his parents he emigrated to America in 1869 and soon was in Chicago. After attending public school and business college, he worked for three years in the jewelry business. Mr. Nelson then obtained a position with Peterson & Bay, bankers. When they organized the Western State Bank, Mr. Nelson was chosen cashier. This office was held by him until the bank reorganized as the Western Trust and Savings Bank. Mr. Nelson is now vice-president of this well-known La Salle st. institution. The bank has a capital stock of $1,000,000, and deposits of over $7,000 000.

JOHN SAMUEL AHLGREN

was born in Sweden July 19, 1865. He came to this country at the age of six, his parents emigrating from Sweden in 1871 and settling in Chicago. Here he attended grammar school. After working for several years in the retail grocery business, he entered the employ of Sprague, Warner & Co., wholesale grocers, as city salesman. He has been with this firm for the past sixteen years.

Mr. Ahlgren is a member of the Immanuel Swedish Lutheran



JOHN SAMUEL AHLGREN

Church. He is a charter member of Monitor Council of Royal Ar-

canum, and also belongs to King Oscar Lodge No. 855, of the Masonic fraternity. Mr. Ahlgren resides at 123 76th place, Windsor Park.

CHARLES THEODORE ALLEN

was born in Winbäck, Tanum parish, Bohus län, Sweden, Feb.



CHARLES THEODORE ALLEN

13, 1875. His father held for over fifty years the position of underbailiff to the crown. In 1890 he emigrated and engaged in the grocery business at Pullman, Ill. Now he is manager of the Roseland branch of Schlitz Brewing Co., with offices at 11439 Perry ave.

Mr. Allen holds membership in the Fellowship Club, Royal League, No. 39, also the Royal Arch Chapter, and the Masonic Order. He was married Oct. 30, 1901, to Lillian Peterson, daughter of Victor Peterson, member and deacon of the Swedish Lutheran Church fo Pullman since its organization.

Two sons have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Allen.

ANDERS FREDR. PIHLGARD

was born in Warberg, Halland, Sweden, Oct. 6, 1852. He at-



ANDERS FREDRIK PIHLGARD

tended college at Karlskrona, and later was an assistant in a pharmacy at Gefle. In 1875 he graduated from the Royal Pharmaceutical Institute at Stockholm, subsequently being engaged as pharmacist in Östhammar, Eslöf, Falköping and Göteborg.

Since his coming to this country in 1881, Mr. Pihlgard has been engaged in the drug business in Chicago.

In 1881, Mr. Pihlgard married Miss Hilma Wikman, with whom he has had five children, three surviving.

ALFRED SELLSTROM

was born in Sweden, Aug. 10, 1862. His childhood and youth

were spent in his native land, where he received his early edu-



ALFRED SELLSTROM

cation and training. At the age of eighteen he emigrated, arriving in Chicago in March, 1881, where he has since resided.

Mr. Sellstrom is a tailor by trade and is the sole owner of the merchant tailoring firm of Sellstrom & Kilby. The place of business is at 45 North Clark st.

Mr. Sellstrom is a member of the Oak Street Swedish Mission Church and is one of its trustees.

P. FOGELBERG

was born July 3, 1859, in Kjellstorp, in the province of Skåne. At the age of sixteen he was apprenticed to a brass molder and finisher. For twelve years he was engaged in this trade. He emigrated to the United States in June, 1887, and settled in Chicago the same year. From 1889 until 1901 he was employed in the Amos Pattern and Model Works. In July, 1901, he and Wm. Boettcher went into business under the firm name of P. Fogelberg & Co. At their works, 123 South Clinton st., are made metal patterns and models. A specialty is made of brass and white metal patterns.



P. FOGELBERG

Mr. Fogelberg was married in 1882, to Hanna Folin, with whom he has had six children, of whom three boys and two girls are now living.

OSCAR OLDBERG

was born in Alfta parish, Helsingland, Sweden, Jan. 22, 1846. His father was the Rev. Anders Oldberg, author of "Hemskolan," and other educational books, and the Rev. Gustaf Unonius, who officiated for many years as pastor of St. Ansgarius Church in Chicago prior to 1860, was his uncle. Having received his early education at the Gefle Gymnasium he en-

tered the pharmacy of the celebrated mining town of Falun in



OSCAR OLDBERG

1861, his employer and preceptor being the well-known Fredrik W. Helleday, a pupil of the great Berzelius. Mr. Oldberg enjoyed the advantage of individual instruction from his employer in both theory and practice of pharmacy and chemistry for four years, being licensed as regular pharmacist in 1865, just before emigrating to the United States. Here he has been actively identified with pharmaceutical education and literature for nearly forty years as a teacher, editor and author.

In 1869 he was appointed a member of the faculty of the School of Pharmacy of Georgetown College, District of Columbia, and later became Dean and Professor of Pharmacy at the National College of Pharmacy in Washington, D. C. When he severed his connection with that institution in 1881, the degree of Doctor of Pharmacy was conferred upon him, *honoris causa*.

In 1874 he became connected with the Marine Hospital Service of the United States. He was chief clerk and acting medical purveyor of that service until 1881, when he resigned. In 1880 he was elected a member of the Committee of Revision and Publication of the Pharmacopœia of the United States. On the expiration of his term in 1890, he was re-elected for another decade, and again re-elected in 1900 to serve until 1910.

Dr. Oldberg was appointed to his present position as Dean of the School of Pharmacy of Northwestern University in 1886 when the school was established. He has written several well known textbooks on chemistry, pharmacy, metrology and related subjects.

CHARLES E. JOHNSON,

doctor of dental surgery, was born in Stockholm, Pepin county, Wis., March 7, 1875. His parents hailed from the province of Vestergötland, Sweden. They were married in Chicago and lived there until the great fire, in which they lost everything they had. Shortly afterwards they moved to Wisconsin and were among the first Swedes to settle in that locality. Charles, their only son, attended the public schools and the Lake City High School, and afterwards spent two years at Augustana College, pursuing the classical course of studies.

In 1898 he went to Duluth, Minn., where he formed the acquaintance



CHARLES E. JOHNSON

of Dr. H. C. Spengler. A warm friendship sprung up between them, and the doctor offered him a position in his office until the time he resumed his studies. In the fall of 1899 Mr. Johnson entered the Northwestern University School of Dental Surgery in Chicago, from which institution he graduated with high standing in 1902. He had already passed a satisfactory examination before the State Board of Dental Examiners of Illinois, and has since that time practiced dentistry on the north side.

Dr. Johnson was married in Minneapolis, Minn., December 23, 1901, to Miss Emma M. Olson, an accomplished and talented woman, who for several years previous to her marriage was associate editor of *Svenska Amerikanska Posten* in that city. She is the daughter of Jonas Olson and his wife Maria, née Person.

Dr. Johnson's church and social affiliations are as follows: member of the Immanuel Swedish Lutheran Church, the Swedish Glee Club, the Dental Odontographic Society of Chicago, the Scandinavian Dental Association of Chicago. In 1906 he was president of the latter society.

He enlisted with the National Guards of Minnesota at Duluth in 1896, continuing in the service for two years.

ERIC FORSELL

was born at Nora, Sweden, June 2, 1859. His father was superin-



ERIC FORSELL

tendent of the Striberg mines, where the son grew into manhood. 1883 he emigrated to America and came to Hudson, Wisconsin, where he worked for the Chicago, Minnesota & Omaha Railroad Co., and later in Kelley's stoneyard

in St. Paul, Minn. Thereupon he went to Canada, in the latter part of May, 1883, and worked on the Canadian Pacific Railroad until April, 1884, when he secured employment with the Vert Island Stone Quarry Company, at Neppigon Bay, Lake Superior, where he remained until the fall of 1889. While here, he had occasion, on a cold wintry night in 1885, to save the lives of a number of soldiers who on their way to fight the Reil Rebellion in Northwest Territory were on the point of freezing to death on Lake Superior.

In 1889 Mr. Forsell made a visit to Sweden. Returning the following year he secured employment with the Chicago Blue Print Company, where he is now foreman. He is also president and director of the Wright & Lawrence Mining Co., of Phoenix, Arizona, owning copper mines at Riverside Mountain in California.

Mr. Forsell has taken great interest in fraternal organizations. He belongs to the order of Odd Fellows, in which he has held important offices. He is also a member of the Independent Order of Vikings, in which he has been honored with the office of Grand Chief, and furthermore is a member of the Royal Arcanum and the King Oscar Lodge, A. F. and A. M. He is married since Aug. 6, 1898.

SWANTE WM. OHLSSON

was born June 3, 1845, at Klårröd, Skåne, Sweden. His father, Olof Nilsson, was "nämndeman", one of the twelve assistants in a Swedish law court.

Mr. Ohlsson attended public school from his fifth year until he



SWANTE WM. OHLSSON

was confirmed. Afterwards he spent a year in high school and then remained in the home of his parents until twenty-two years of age. At this period he was given charge of his father's estate, Skogsholm. Shortly afterwards, big losses incurred by securing notes for friends, forced a sale of the estate. Mr. Ohlsson next tried all sorts of occupations, but none suiting him he concluded to try his fortune in America.

In the fall of 1884 he came over and, meeting nothing but discouragement, he had already decided to return to Sweden, when some friends persuaded him to stay. He then settled in Galesburg, Ill., and worked at the painter's trade. Until 1891 he continued to follow this line of

work in Galesburg and Chicago. The great boom in real estate, prior to the World's Fair, opened his eyes to great possibilities, and with his practical experience from Sweden to guide him he began to deal in city property, and has since continued in the business of real estate broker.

He has held many positions of trust, as administrator and trustee. Mr. Ohlsson is a member of the Swedish Methodist Church. In 1869 he was married to Miss Betty Åkeson. Their residence is at 5723 South May St.

MARTIN R. ONELIUS

was born July 16, 1867, in Höör, Sweden. He came to this country



MARTIN R. ONELIUS

in 1887, since which time he has been engaged as watchmaker. His place of business is at 4749 Evans ave. Mr. Onelius is a member of the Swedish Watchmakers' Society.

CARL JEAN MAURITZ SCHYCKER

was born in Stockholm, Sweden, March 6, 1855. He studied dent-



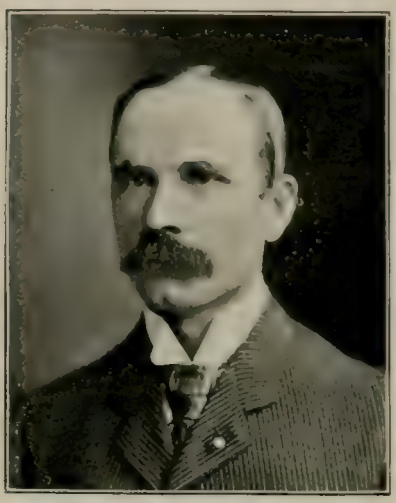
CARL JEAN MAURITZ SCHYCKER

istry in his native country, and thereafter came to America in 1881, settling in Philadelphia and studying for some time at the Philadelphia Dental College, graduating in 1882. That same year he came to Chicago, where he was one of the first of his nationality to practice the dental profession. He has his office at 2459 Wentworth avenue, and resides at 4625 Evans ave., where he owns a fine residence. In 1886 he was married to Miss Marit Norman, with whom he has one son, Richard, born in 1887.

JOHN THEODORE LINDHOLM

was born in Nor parish, province of Vermland, Sweden, March 28, 1858. He came to Chicago in April, 1880, and carries on a

merchant tailoring business at 216 Oak St. He is a member of the



JOHN THEODORE LINDHOLM.

Royal Arcanum. Mr. Lindholm was married Nov. 18, 1882, to Mathilda Christina Peterson, who was born April 16, 1856, in Marbäck parish, Småland. She came to America in June, 1870. Mr. and Mrs. Lindholm belong to the Swedish Ev. Luth. Mission Church.

CHARLES CARLSON

was born on a farm in Heda parish, Östergötland, Sweden, Feb. 29, 1848. He emigrated to America at the age of twenty-one, and has since lived in Chicago and vicinity, except a year and a half spent on a farm. He worked as a carpenter at Riverside until after the great fire, when he moved into the city and secured employment as shipping clerk at the branch establishment of Pitt's Agricultural Works. In the meantime he started in the business of teaming, which grew rapidly, compelling him to resign his clerkship, in order to devote his whole time to it. The business has continued to grow. He is now exclusively engaged in heavy teaming, such as moving machinery, etc. His office is at 36 South Canal st.

Mr. Carlson was married in 1873 to Miss Augusta Anderson, with whom he has five children, one boy and four girls. The son, Edwin Howard, is engaged in the teaming business with his father.



CHARLES CARLSON

One daughter is married to Hjalmar Westerdahl, bookkeeper with the Aetna Powder Co.

Mr. Carlson and his family belong to the Second Swedish M. E. Church, North May Street. Mr. Carlson has been collector, trustee, and cashier for the congregation. In politics he is a Republican. He is quite extensively interested in real estate, being the owner of a number of houses and lots, be

sides lands in Alabama. He resides at 757 Washington Blvd.

AXEL O. PILO

was born in Norra Rörum, Skåne, Sweden, April 20, 1859. His



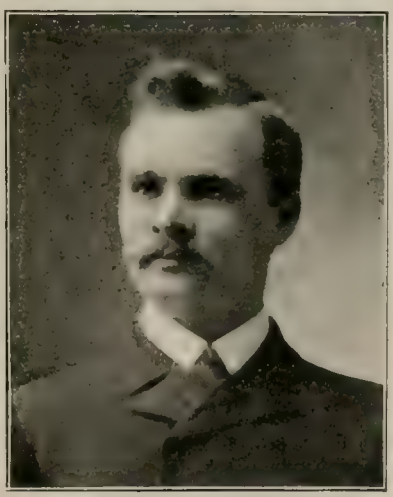
AXEL O. PILO

mother died when he was six years of age. The father was a stone mason by trade. At the age of fourteen young Pilo left home and ever since has made his own way. He learned the shoemakers' trade, serving as an apprentice for three years. He later worked in Helsingborg and in Copenhagen, Denmark, until the spring of 1881, when he emigrated to the United States. Arriving in Chicago in April of the same year, he secured employment at his trade, but soon began to look around for a more healthful occupation. In May, 1882, he was engaged by the well-known surveying firm of Greely, Carlson & Co., now Greely, Howard & Co., which position he is still holding.

He is a charter member of Three Links Lodge, No. 812, I. O. O. F. of Garden City Encampment, and of Three Links Rebekah Lodge, No. 434. He is an enthusiastic Odd Fellow. Mr. Pilo is married to Annie O. Pilo.

PETER EDWARD URELIUS

was born in Sweden, April 23, 1866. He emigrated to the United States in April, 1885, and settled in Rockford. After living in that city for nine years, plying the trade of shoemaker, Mr. Urelius moved to Chicago in 1894. Here he entered the employ of the shoe manufacturing firm of Selz, Schwab and Co., in the capacity of foreman in that estab-



PETER EDWARD URELIUS

lishment. This position he has held up to the present time.

Mr. Urelius belongs to the Elim M. E. church in Lake View.

With his wife, Hulda Eugenia, he has a son, Roland E. G. Urelius.

JOHN HENNING ENGWALL

was born in Chicago in the '70s, and has lived in this state all his



JOHN HENNING ENGWALL

life. His early years were devoted to study, and he graduated from both the grammar school and high school. Later he accepted a position as bookkeeper with the National Publishing Company, steadily advancing with the concern until in 1899 he was elected its president, a position he has since creditably filled. The National Publishing Company is the oldest subscription publishing house in the United States, having been established in 1857. Besides its English publications, it has published many Swedish books, such as "Berömda Scener," "Jord, Haf och Himmel," "Kristi och Apostlarnes Lif," "Jubel Album," Kriget med Spanien," etc.

Mr. Engwall during his spare time took up the study of law, and in September, 1897, entered the Law Department of Lake Forest University, graduating with the degree of Bachelor of Laws. After passing the examination before the State Board of Law Examiners, he was admitted to practice in all courts. His office is in the Lakeside Building.

Mr. Engwall visited his mother country (Sweden) in 1894, spending more than eight months in the principal towns and cities.

He has been received in the highest ranks of Free Masonry, and is a Noble of the Mystic Shrine.

GUSTAF SEAQUIST

was born in Skön parish, Medelpad, Sweden, Nov. 15, 1874. At



GUSTAF SEAQUIST

12 years of age he secured employ-

ment as bookkeeper at the Tunadal steam saw-mill, where he served for about two years, filling the position to the satisfaction of his employer.

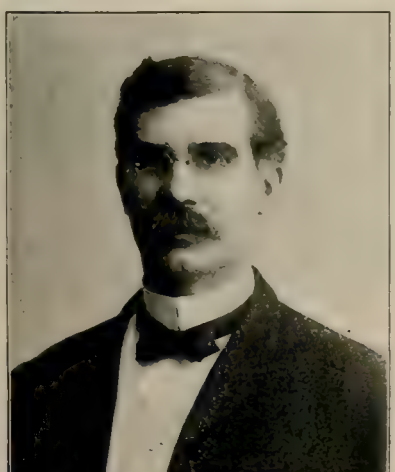
In the spring of 1890 he emigrated and joined his father, who had a tailor shop in Chicago. He here learned the tailoring trade and was associated with his father for a number of years.

In 1898 the younger Seaquist opened a tailoring establishment of his own, which is still prospering under his management.

In 1899 Mr. Seaquist was married to Miss Ida Nilson, with whom he has three children, two sons and one daughter.

CHARLES H. BOMAN,

secretary of the Scandia Life Insurance Company, was born in



CHARLES H. BOMAN

Högsby, Sweden, in 1848. He emigrated to America at the age of twenty-one, locating in Galesburg, Ill. He removed in 1871 to Moline, where he soon engaged in the stove and hardware business. In that occupation he continued until 1882, when he became a candidate for tax collector on the Republican ticket and was elected with a large majority. After having served his term as collector, he conducted a crockery store for a number of years. Being elected a member of the Board of Education in 1891, that body chose him secretary and general overseer of all the school property in the Moline district. This office he held for eleven years, resigning to accept the secretaryship of the Scandia Life Insurance Co. of Chicago, the largest Swedish-American insurance company.

Mr. Boman and his family belong to tne Messiah English Lutheran Church in Lake View. He was elected trustee of the church in 1904 and became chairman of the Board of Trustees in the following year.

May 10, 1878, Mr. Boman was wedded to Miss Margaret Hageman, adopted daughter of the late Dr. A. R. Cervin of Rock Island. They have a family of four boys and two girls: Ella Caroline, Carl Rudolph, Anton Leroy, Anna Agatha, Berndt and Herbert.

FRED NORLIN

was born in Vagnhärad parish, in the province of Södermanland, Sweden, March 4, 1865. His father was an officer of Hussars and adjutant to King Charles XV. The family removed to Upland, where

the son was educated at the university of Upsalá, acquiring, in addition to the regular courses, a



FRED NORLIN

thorough knowledge of the English language and of drawing. In 1881 he came to America, proceeding at once to Chicago. Here he entered the employ of the Pullman Co., securing a situation in the woodwork department. By degrees he worked himself up, until he was at the head of the molding machine department, in which position he remained until the spring of 1886. He then went to Minnesota on a vacation trip, and, having done some surveying for drainage on his father's estate in Sweden, he was induced to accept a position with the county surveyor of Martin County, Minn., who was then platting an addition to the little town of Sherburne. That work finished, Mr. Norlin returned to Chicago and entered the employ of the Greeley-Carlson Company. He remained with that firm for eight years, during which time, by private study and hard work, he prepared himself for the profession of surveying, and in the spring of 1894 opened an office for the general practice of surveying, to which he has since successfully devoted himself. He is considered an expert in his line, and has clients among the most prominent attorneys and real estate men in Chicago. He recently planned and surveyed the town of Indiana Harbor, Ind., one of the largest manufacturing centers in the vicinity of Chicago, and did the surveying for a new railroad in Indiana.

Mr. Norlin is a member of the Western Society of Civil Engineers, the Illinois Society of Civil Engineers and Surveyors, and treasurer of the Chicago Club of Surveyors and likewise treasurer of the Scandinavian Club of Civil Engineers. He is also a member of the Swedish Glee Club and the Svithiod Singing Club.

In 1889 Mr. Norlin was married to Miss Dorothea Knost, from Westphalia, Germany. They have three children—one girl and two boys.

P. A. LINDBERG

was born June 5, 1863, in Bondersbyn, Neder Kalix, Sweden. His father held a position with a large lumber firm, as a buyer of timber and superintending its transportation on some of the tributaries to the Kalix River. Lindberg was brought up on the farm and re-

ceived his education at the village school. In 1882 he emigrated to the United States, and the follow-



P. A. LINDBERG.

ing six years lived alternately at Clinton, Iowa, and in Whiteside County, Ill., working in lumber yards and on the farm. While at Clinton, he acquired a business education, and in 1888 moved to Chicago, where he was employed as an office clerk for some time. He traveled nearly four years for a Chicago picture house, and in July, 1895, engaged in the publishing business. Mr. Lindberg is the author of a Swedish-American story, entitled "Adam," depicting life and superstitions in his native country and an immigrant's trials and experiences in the New World.

Mr. Lindberg is a member of the N. S. B. A. and of the Independent Religious Society.

The firm of P. A. Lindberg & Co., Publishers, has its place of business at 52 Dearborn st.

NELS B. JOHNSON

was born on the Husaby estate, in the province of Blekinge, Sweden, June 3, 1861. Some time later his parents removed to Mjellby, where most of the years of his youth were spent. The family being in poor circumstances, he had to apply himself early to hard labor, and enjoyed no schooling after his twelfth year. At the age of twenty years he emigrated to America, securing work on a farm near Sycamore, De Kalb Co., Illinois, where he spent two years. The third year he spent in the West, working on the railroads. In 1884 he went to Chicago. After having been sick in Alexian Bro-



NELS B JOHNSON

thers Hospital for three months he became penniless. He secured employment piling lumber and shoveling coal along the docks at Chicago ave. Then after having a place as porter in a wholesale clothing house he was advanced

to be shipping clerk, which position was retained for five years. He established a milk depot in 1889 and later a grocery store, finally acquiring four stores, which he conducted with considerable success for over ten years. He is at present a building contractor and operates extensively in buildings, purchasing properties and erecting buildings on them. His latest venture is a $75,000 apartment building on Sheridan Road.

Mr. Johnson is married to Miss Nellie Munson, daughter of Nels Munson and his wife, Hanna Nelson, the date of their wedding being Feb. 25, 1887. Their children are Arthur, born March 25, 1888, Richard, born Dec. 9, 1889, Florence, born March 20, 1893. The family is connected with the Swedish Mission Church.

CHARLES PALM

was born in the province of Vestmanland, Sweden, June 28, 1859, and arrived in America in 1880. Having graduated from the Swedish Baptist Theological Seminary, he became a pastor in Evanston, Ill., and served there with marked success for over seven years, a large number of members being added to the church. He thereupon accepted a call to San Francisco, where he remained four years and a half, and was equally successful there. A lot was secured and a spacious church erected with but little debt, and the membership of the congregation increased rapidly. The Sunday school work was especially successful. New mission stations were established, and finally the California Conference was organized with the results of Rev. Mr. Palm's labors as a nucleus. Mr. Palm has been serving as a Sunday school missionary, having charge of the Sunday school work in Illinois and Indiana. He is a member and vice-president of the board of trustees of the Swedish Baptist General Conference; a member of the board of the "Fridhem" Old People's Home; also president of "Fridhem" Children's Home Society. He has lectured on history, Egyptology, Christian citizenship, and the historical development of hymnology.



CHARLES PALM

Mr. Palm is married to Anna Wassell, a daughter of Rev. C. Wassell.

JOHN LINDERHOLM

was born in Sandsjö parish, Småland, Sweden, July 22, 1841. He came to this country at the age

of ten years, the family settling at Andover, Ill. During the succeeding years he attended the pub-



JOHN LINDERHOLM

lic school in winter and worked on the farm in summer. He was married to Christine Hedberg in 1861. In the early sixties he went west with a gold mining expedition, prospecting through Idaho and other western states, but after the Civil War broke out he returned home, having had many narrow escapes from falling into the hands of the Indians, who at that time were on the war path. In 1869 he removed with his family to Webster co., Iowa, becoming one of the pioneers in that part of the state, and engaged extensively in farming and stock raising. Later he also engaged in a general retail mercantile business in Dayton, Iowa, where he remained for several years, later removing to Gowrie, Iowa, where he conducted a similar business for some years. In 1876 he moved to Essex, Iowa, where he conducted a general merchandise business and engaged extensively in the stock and grain business, owning several grain elevators in the state. He also extended his business to different points in Nebraska, conducting general stores and banks in Ogalalla, Grant, Genoa and Central City, Weeping Water and Omaha, in the latter place also engaging extensively in the ice business, wholesale and retail. In 1886 he removed with his family to Omaha, in order to facilitate a closer attention to his busines interests. Five years later he moved to Chicago, and in 1892 engaged in the general commission business on the Board of Trade, where he is well and favorably known, having been connected with some very extensive operations on the Board.

In the fall of 1893 Mr. Linderholm took a trip to Texas and made a thorough investigation of the condition and resources of the Lone Star State, and in the spring of 1894 purchased a tract of land, embracing in all 60,000 acres, which he proceeded to colonize, especially interesting a large number of northern people from Iowa, Illinois, Minnesota, Kansas, Nebraska and Missouri in the venture. The lands he acquired are located in the counties of Colorado and Wharton in the southern portion of the state, commonly called the Gulf Coast country. He platted and developed the town of Chesterville, now a flourishing village, inhabited by northern people and

one of the centers of the rice raising regions of southern Texas. His work in the development of the fertile prairies of Texas has brought him into prominence as one of the most enterprising business men of the southern section.

When in Chicago, Mr. Linderholm resides at 108 Hammond st. He divides his time between his home and Chesterville, Texas. He has a family of one son, Oscar E. Linderholm, an attorney of Chicago, and four daughters, two of whom also reside in this city.

G. BERNHARD ANDERSON,

the eldest son of Svante Anderson and his wife Johanna, nèe



G. BERNHARD ANDERSON

Monsson, was born April 19, 1867, in Sweden. In the following year his parents emigrated and came to Chicago where the family has since resided. He attended the public schools and, after leaving school, worked for several years. At the age of fifteen he entered the preparatory department of Augustana College, graduating from the collegiate department with the class of 1888. The two following years he spent in Salt Lake City, Utah, teaching in an academy. In 1890 he entered the senior class at Harvard University and graduated with the class of 1891. The degree of Master of Arts was conferred upon him in 1892 by Harvard University. He then went to Europe and spent one year studying the Scandinavian languages and literatures in the University of Upsala, the oldest and most noted institution of learning in Sweden. After spending some months in Germany and France, he returned to Chicago and began the study of law. He was admitted to the bar in 1895 and has now a large and lucrative practice. Mr. Anderson takes an interest in public and political matters, but does not permit these to interfere with his professional work. He is a fluent speaker in both Swedish and English and has appeared as orator on many public occasions. He has been president of the Swedish Glee Club of Chicago and of the Alumni Association of Augustana College and is a member of the Harvard Club of Chicago and of the Chicago Bar Association. Since 1903 Mr. Anderson has been instructor of the Chicago Law School. He is the senior member of the law firm of Anderson & Anderson, with offices at 509, 100 Washington St.

Mr. Anderson is married to Miss

Alma C. Petterson, daughter of Anders Gustaf and Christine Petterson.

GUSTAVE ADOLPH MATHIAS LILJENCRANTZ,

of the U. S. Engineer Office, was



GUSTAVE ADOLPH MATHIAS LILJENCRANTZ

born in the province of Upland, Sweden, April 11, 1842. His parents were Baron Johan Carl Liljencrantz, Custom House Inspector, and Henriette von Schoultz. They are both dead, Baron Liljencrantz having passed away at Dalarö, in 1862. The son attended first the New Collegiate School, and thereafter the Royal Technological Institute, both in Stockholm, where he was graduated as a civil engineer in June, 1866. Later he became gentleman of the chambers at the Swedish Court.

Liljencrantz was assistant engineer at the construction of the Dalsland Canal 1866 to 1869. In the last named year he emigrated, locating in Milwaukee. There he took a position as draughtsman in the U. S. Engineer Office until 1870, when he entered the employ of the C. M.& St. P. Ry. in the same capacity. Coming to Chicago in 1871, he was draughtsman at the government engineering office until the following year, when he advanced to Assistant Engineer, the position he has occupied to the present time. He is a member of the Western Society of Engineers in Chicago, of the Technological Society of Stockholm, and an honorary member of the Scandinavian Technical Society of Chicago. In the former he has served as trustee and first vice president, etc. He has held important offices in the Masonic order, and is a member of the Masonic Veteran Association of Illinois. In religion he is a Lutheran.

Mr. Liljencrantz was married April 27, 1875 to Miss Adaline Charlotte Hall of N. Pownal, Vermont, a lady of old colonial stock. They have one daughter, Ottilie A. Liljencrantz, well known for her successful historical romances, "The Thrall of Leif the Lucky," "The Ward of King Canute" and "Randvar the Songsmith."

ERICK EDGREN

was born August 17, 1859, at Storfors, Kroppa parish, Vermland, Sweden. His education was obtained in the public schools in his native land. In the fall of 1881

he emigrated to the United States. By December he was in Chicago. For a time he worked in a foun-



ERICK EDGREN

dry, then conducted a grocery store on the North Side for four years. During more than fifteen years he has been a salesman with Steele-Wedeles Co., wholesale grocers, still continuing in the employ of that house.

Mr. Edgren was married in Sweden, Nov. 1, 1881. Mr. and Mrs. Edgren have four sons and four daughters and reside at 1080 Kimball Ave. They belong to the Humboldt Park Swedish M. E. church in which Mr. Edgren has been trustee, steward, Sunday school teacher and president of the Epworth League. Mr. Edgren is a stanch Republican.

OLOF PEARSON

was born May 13, 1869, in Malmö, Sweden. After completing his early education in the public school he learned the watchmaker's trade. In 1886 he emigrated to the United States. For ten years he worked for various firms, and then established himself in business as a watchmaker and optician at 11340 Michigan ave., Roseland, in 1898. Mr. Pearson has been high grand master of the Independent Order of Svithiod, and president of the Swedish Watchmakers' Society. He belongs to several other societies and fraternities, including the N. A. U., the N. U. and the K. of P. He is a member and direc-



OLOF PEARSON

tor of the South End Merchants' Association.

Mr. Pearson is married to Hilda L. Johnson, from Östergötland, and has with her a daughter, Emma Maria Charlotta.

OTHELIA MYHRMAN

was born July 9, 1859, at Finspong, Sweden, her father, Peter Mörk, being a foreman in the

great cannon foundry of that name. She emigrated to America in 1875 and, coming to Chicago as a young



OTHELIA MYHRMAN

girl, studied the servant girl question from the ground up, by being herself employed as a domestic for several years.

Mrs. Myhrman early took an interest in the temperance movement and has lectured with enthusiasm on the subject in the city of Chicago and in numerous minor cities in the Northwest. She represented the Illinois Grand Temperance Lodge at Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1881, at Zurich, Switzerland, in 1897, and at Boston, Mass., in 1895.

Mrs. Myhrman is one of the founders of the Swedish National Association, which was organized in 1894 by Swedish-Americans of Chicago, primarily for the purpose of procuring the conviction of the murderers of a fellow countryman. Subsequently the association has been maintained as a charitable organization. In the first year of its existence the association, which is composed of a large number of Swedish societies, founded the Swedish Free Employment Bureau and engaged Mrs. Myhrman as a manager, a position for which she is well adapted and where her executive ability has ever proved a valuable asset to the association.

Mrs. Myhrman takes the lead in any endeavor which may engage her interest. She is especially active in charities and in work for woman's advancement. She has served as president of the Swedish-American Woman's Club of Chicago, and when in 1905 the Sophia Aid Society, a charity organization, was founded, the chairmanship naturally went to Mrs. Myhrman as the principal promoter of the society. Some years back, when the woman's aid and benefit society Ingeborg was instituted, she was also among its organizers.

Mrs. Myhrman's genius for management has been frequently exemplified at the large midsummer and midwinter festivals regularly arranged by the Swedish National Association.

JOHN ALBERT LINDSTEDT was born in Chicago July 29, 1869. He was three years old when his parents removed to Indiana, where he was reared and obtained a country school education. In 1889 he returned to Chicago and was soon apprenticed to a plumber, working at this occupation for eight years. During this period

he attended evening classes at the Columbia Business College for two years. In 1900 he set up his own business at 1697 North Clark st., contracting for everything in the line of plumbing and gas-fitting.

Mr. Lindstedt has served as president of the Chicago Plumbers' Association, and is a member of the I. O. O. F., Adelphi No. 8.



JOHN ALBERT LINDSTEDT

He is married to Miss Laura Swanson of Chicago, and their home is in Lake View.

JOHN G. GUSTAFSON

was born in the year 1846, in Karlstad, Sweden, and has been a resident of the United States since 1868. In 1892 the Butler Street Foundry and Iron Co. was organized with Mr. Gustafson as vice-president and secretary of the firm. The works are at 3422—3432 Butler st., Chicago, and consist of a large and complete iron foundry, pattern shop and fitting shop. The firm is prominent among like institutions for the



JOHN G. GUSTAFSON

manufacture of structural iron and steel work for buildings, castings for boiler fronts, machinery and general iron work.

Mr. Gustafson is a member of Svithiod Lodge No. 1, I. O. S.

THEODORE JOHNSON

was born in Iowa Dec. 28, 1872, and lived with his parents on a farm near Stanton, Iowa, until he was seventeen years of age. He attended the public schools and the Mamrelund Normal School during the winter months and worked hard on a farm during the summer months. He then took a course of studies at the Western Normal College at Shenandoah, Iowa. In 1890 he secured employment as a stenographer and clerk in the law office of Bradley & De Lamatre, of Omaha, Neb., where he remained until the fol-

lowing summer, when he went to Chicago. Immediately he secured employment with the law firm of



THEODORE JOHNSON

Cratty Brothers, with whom he remained four years as stenographer and and assistant manager of their collection department. At the same time Mr. Johnson attended the evening sessions of the Chicago College of Law, from which he graduated with honors in 1895, when he was admitted to the bar. He then became chief clerk for the firm of Eschenburg & Whitfield, a law firm in Chicago, making a specialty of the real estate and probate law practice, with whom he continued until January 1st, 1899, when he opened a law office of his own. He was successful from the start. In 1901, he entered into partnership with Harry G. Colson, a successful trial lawyer, under the firm name of Colson & Johnson. The firm has built up a large and lucrative practice, representing many of the largest mercantile houses and real estate firms in Chicago, in addition to an extensive clientage among American, Swedish and German people. Mr. Johnson is a Mason and an Odd Fellow. He was married to Miss Anna Sandell of Omaha in 1898 and resides at 2337 Wayne ave., Edgewater.

PETER S. RONBERG

was born Sept. 7, 1865, in Gränum, Blekinge, Sweden. From thence he emigrated to this country in 1887, coming to Chicago, where he made his home permanently. Shortly after his arrival he secured employment as a car-



PETER S. RONBERG

penter with the contracting firm of Clark & Findlay, remaining with them for several years. In the year 1895 he started in business as a contractor and builder.

Mr. Ronberg has been very active in religious work. The office

of president of the Swedish Mission Church of Englewood was held by him for a number of years.

In 1890 he was married to Miss Mathilda Soderberg, with whom he has seven children, four girls and three boys.

JOHN JOHNSON

was born in Hallaryd parish, Småland, Sweden, Sept. 16, 1868. His



JOHN JOHNSON

early education was obtained in the common schools of the old country. A victim of the emigration fever, he left his native land in 1888, landing Aug. 8 and proceeding to Chicago. In 1892 he was engaged as a bellows maker by the Cable Piano and Organ Co., and is now organ inspector for this well-known firm.

Mr. Johnson, with his family, visited his native home in 1900. After a sojourn of three months in Sweden, he returned to Chicago. Mr. Johnson belongs to the Zion Ev. Luth. Church and to the Enighet Society.

ESPERANCE F. ALMGREN

was born in Stockholm, Sweden. After graduating from the Poly-



ESPERANCE F. ALMGREN

technic Institute, he became a pupil of W. A. Barklund, engraver to the Royal Postal Department of Sweden. With five years' experience he left his native land to seek his fortune in America. He came to Chicago in 1881 and for several years worked as engraver with S. D. Childs. In 1884 he went to Paris for further development in the engraver's art. Returning in 1885 to Chicago, he accepted a position with C. H. Hanson, the engraver and die-maker. In the twenty-two years that Mr. Almgren has continued in the same position, he has won the confidence of his employer and acquired complete mastery of his art.

ADOLPH A. CARLSON

was born in Sigislaryd, Madesjö parish, Småland, Sweden, Jan. 28,



ADOLPH A. CARLSON

1858, and arrived in America in April, 1882, from that time residing in Chicago. On arriving here, he first went to work in a stone quarry, and thereafter on the railroad. In the fall of 1883 he entered the employ of C. J. Landquist, a wood tank manufacturer. During ten years he worked in this line for different firms. In September, 1893, when the firm with which he was then employed retired from business owing to the hard times, Mr. Carlson embarked in the business, forming a co-partnership with John A. Johnson and Andrew Johnson, under the firm name of Johnson, Carlson & Co. They continued as partners until April, 1895, when Andrew Johnson retired, and the firm name was changed to Johnson & Carlson. They have uniformly been successful, and now occupy their own factory at 139–155 Eastman st. cor. of Judson st.

Mr. Carlson was in 1884 married to Miss Augusta Carlson. They have seven children, three boys and four girls.

In religion, Mr. Carlson has always been a Lutheran and is now a member of the Saron Swedish Lutheran Church.

ALFRED ANDERSON

was born in the city of Jönköping, Sweden, March 3, 1851, and emi-



ALFRED ANDERSON

grated to America in 1866. For the next three years he worked on a farm and in 1870, when the M. E. theological school opened in Galesburg, he became one of its first students. He was ordained a minister of the Methodist Church in the fall of 1871, by Bishop Ames. Thereafter he served as pastor in Iowa two years; then in Galesburg, Ill., three years; in

Jamestown, N. Y., three years; in Andover, Ill., two years; in the First Sw. M. E. Church of Chicago, five years, and in Evanston one year. For nine years he held the office of presiding elder, and was thereafter selected pastor of the Elim Church of Chicago, a post which he held four years. He was subsequently manager of the Swedish M. E. Book Concern, Chicago, until 1906. He is at present Presiding Elder of Chicago District.

The Rev. Mr. Anderson was the first financial agent of the Bethany Home, and has been president of the board of trustees of the Methodist Theological Seminary in Evanston for many years.

In the year 1874 Mr. Anderson was married to Miss Augusta Börjeson, who was born in Göteborg.

PETER C. PEARSON

was born in Gefle, Sweden, March 14, 1863, and emigrated with his parents to this country in 1868. After two years in Andover, Ill., the family removed to Lindsborg, Kans., where his father is still living. Mr. Pearson was educated at Bethany College, Lindsborg. In 1890 he became editor of *Framåt*, a weekly newspaper, which was then removed from Lindsborg to Chicago, and has been published under the name of *Fosterlandet* since the fall of 1891, Mr. Pearson being connected with it in an editorial capacity up to 1902. During 1902–1905, Mr. Pearson was president of North Star Benefit Association, an insurance society; from 1903–1905 he was president of Western Oregon Orchard



P. C. PEARSON

Co., and is now secretary of Telma Gold Mining Co. For a number of years he has been advertising solicitor for *Fosterlandet* and *Svenska Tribunen*.

Mr. Pearson is a member of American Academy of Political and Social Science.

Having lost his first wife and a child, Mr. Pearson on Nov. 25, 1900, was united in marriage to Marie W. Wennerstrom, of Topeka, Kans., born March 28, 1878. They have two daughters, Lillian, born 1902, and Margaret, born 1905.

Mr. and Mrs. Pearson belong to Concordia Swedish Luth. Church, at Cuyler.

GUSTAF L. JOHNSON

was born May 10, 1863, in Kungslena, Skaraborg län, Sweden. In 1882 he came over from the old

country, with Chicago as his objective point. He attended the Metropolitan Business College in



GUSTAF L. JOHNSON

order to acquire a theoretical training for his subsequent business career. Mr. Johnson is now president and general manager of Elizabeth Street Foundry. The works are at 5833-5843 Elizabeth st., and employ 100 men. Mr. Johnson was married nineteen years ago to Mathilda Wiberg from Virestad, Småland. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, with their two daughters, reside at 5704 Green st.

CHARLES O. ELLSTRÖM

was born in Lönneberga, in the province of Småland, Sweden, February 5, 1865. He emigrated to America at the age of seventeen, arriving here in the year 1882. He first went to Leavenworth, Kans., where he stopped for only six months. From there young Ellström moved to Kansas City, where he secured employment with the Fort Scott & Gulf R. R. Co. In the fall of 1886 he gave up his position and left Kansas City to take a place with the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Ry., in Chicago. He remained in the employ of this company for fifteen years. At the present time he is the secretary of the Scandia Mining Syndicate of Nome, Alaska, with main offices at 1237 Stock Exchange



CHARLES O. ELLSTRÖM

Building. In 1895 Mr. Ellström was married to Miss Emma Karlborg.

CLAES VICTOR PETERSON

was born in Elmhultsbro, Småland, Sweden, March 6, 1862. His father, J. A. Peterson, is a prominent landowner and lumber manufacturer in that part of Sweden. After finishing school the son was employed at the sawmill and on the farm at Elmhultsbro. He emigrated in 1884, going to live with an uncle

in Svea, Iowa, attended school and worked on his uncle's farm till the



CLAES VICTOR PETERSON

next year when he went to Ohio, where another uncle of his was living near Columbus. Here he was employed in various lines of work until the preparations for the World's Fair attracted him to Chicago. For several years he worked as agent for various businesshouses and in 1896 became salesman for the Kimball Company, and continues with that house to the present time. Mr. Peterson, who is unmarried, spent his vacations in 1904 and 1906 in his old home in Sweden and other parts of country. He is a member of the Masonic order.

GUSTAF WILHELM JOHNSON

was born Feb. 20, 1863, in Rydaholm parish, Småland, Sweden. Coming to the United States in 1881, he first settled in Lemont. In 1883 he removed to Rockford and in 1885 to Chicago where he has since remained. Mr. Johnson learned the trade of garment cutter at C. J. Stone's Cutting School. He was cutter with various tailoring houses until 1895 when he engaged in business for himself at 145 North State st., and has enjoyed prosperity in the business. Mr. Johnson was married June 20, 1898, to Miss Carolina Johnson, of Spring Garden, Goodhue co., Minn.

Mr. Johnson is active in fraternal circles, holding membership in



GUSTAF WILHELM JOHNSON

several societies. He resides in his own house, 871 Osgood st.

Mr. Johnson belongs to the Lutheran Church and is a good and true Republican.

WILLIAM K. SANDBERG

was born in Stockholm, Sweden, August 17, 1873. He attended the public schools, and thereafter studied at the Technological School

at Sundsvall. Securing a position with a jeweler in his native city, he worked for him until April,



WILLIAM K. SANDBERG

1891, when he left for America. Arriving in Chicago, he received employment in the watch department of Montgomery, Ward & Co., remaining there five years. He was afterwards employed as foreman for the watch department of A. C. Backen's wholesale jewelry business, for two years.

After that Mr. Sandberg started in business for himself as watchmaker and jeweler. He now manufactures watches and jewelry to the trade and has an extensive mail order business.

Mr. Sandberg was married in 1888, to Miss Anna Johnson from Söderköping, Sweden.

ERIC SANDELL,

president of the Swedish Baptist General Conference of America, was born at Helsingtuna, near Hudiksvall, Sweden, Jan. 26, 1856, and came to America in June 1880. He graduated from the Baptist Union Theological Seminary at Morgan Park, Ill., in 1884, and was pastor of the Second Swedish Baptist Church of Chicago from 1884 to 1887. Thereafter he was professor in the Central Bible Seminary at Stromsburg, Neb., 1887-1888, and professor in the Swedish Department of the Baptist Union Theological Seminary from 1888 to 1892. The latter year he became assistant professor in the Swedish Theological Seminary, a department of the University of Chicago Divinity School, from which position he resigned in 1895 to accept the pastorate of the Elim



ERIC SANDELL

Swedish Baptist Church in Minneapolis. Serving there until 1899, he became pastor of the Fourth Swedish Baptist Church of Chicago, which position he held until 1905.

That the Rev. Mr. Sandell is

highly esteemed even outside of his own church denomination is shown by the fact that in 1902 he received the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity from a Lutheran institution, Bethany College, at Lindsborg, Kansas.

CHARLES G. PETTERSON,

the business manager of *Missions-Wännen*, was born in Marbäck



CHARLES G. PETTERSON

parish, Småland, Sweden, August 8, 1851. Up to the age of eighteen he remained under the parental roof. Thereupon he joined a company of emigrants from his native parish and vicinity and set out for America, in 1869, coming direct to Chicago, where he has since resided. In the great fire of 1871 his home shared the general fate, being gutted by the flames. Up to the year 1882 Mr. Petterson was engaged in various occupations. That year a printing society was formed to publish the *Missions-Wännen*, a religious weekly, representing the Swedish Mission churches. Mr. Petterson became the manager of the business and still continues in that capacity. He is the type of a true, conservative Swedish business man, who believes in running a business on a firm, honest conservative basis. Under his management the paper has prospered and is one of the best financed Swedish newspapers in America. His capacity as a man of affairs has been recognized in many ways. As a member of various committees he has had much to do with the adminstration of the Mission Covenant. For a long term of years, and up to the present time, he has served as a member of the executive committee of the Covenant, and is one of the most influential men on that board. The business of the Mission Church on the north side he has managed, as its treasurer, for many years.

For the past twenty-eight years he has been united in marriage to Josephina Johnson who is also a native of Marbäck parish. There are three children in the family, a son and two daughters.

JOEL MOSSBERG,

a baritone of prominence in Chicago, was born in Kumla, Nerike, Sweden, Jan. 30, 1870. He emigrated to America twenty years later, having worked over four years as decorator in Visby, Gotland. Coming to Chicago in 1892 he worked at his trade for a time. He had early evinced musical tal-

ent as flutist, violinist and director of a singers' club in Visby, and now devoted his spare time



JOEL MOSSBERG

to musical studies, first with W. W. Hinshaw and subsequently with John R. Ortengren of the Chicago Musical College. His fine voice and masterful handling soon won for him a scholarship in the operatic department of the college.

He has been baritone soloist of the North Shore Jewish Synagogue for the last five years, and is also soloist of the Sixth Presbyterian Church. For many years he was one of the mainstays of the Swedish Glee Club male chorus.

Mr. Mossberg is now devoting himself to teaching, directing choruses and to church and concert work. Among the choruses directed by him are, the Orpheus, Iduna and Harmoni Swedish male choruses and the Jenny Lind Ladies Chorus.

He was married Dec. 10, 1906, to Mrs. Olga Meine.

FRANK ALBERT JOHNSON was born Sept. 4, 1870, in Chicago. He attended grammar schools and business college, afterwards holding successively responsible positions in the offices of the Wabash R. R. Co., Pullman Palace Car Co., and Alston Mfg. Co. For six years Mr. Johnson was in the custom tailoring business with his father. Mr. Johnson belongs to the Elim Swedish M. E. church in which he is serving as class leader and has held other offices. He is now secretary of the Swedish Methodist Aid Association of Chicago, an insurance society doing business exclusively with church people of the different denominations. He has filled this position creditably for the past seven years.



FRANK ALBERT JOHNSON

Mr. Johnson is director and secretary of the Swedish M. E. Book Concern of Chicago. He was married in 1892 to Miss Hilda A. Anderson and has two children, a son and a daughter.

While a native of this country and a steadfast American citizen, Mr. Johnson takes great pride in his descent and esteems the Swedish blood and language a most valuable heritage.

OSCAR RAPP

was born Oct. 15, 1863, in Ödeshög, Östergötland, Sweden. He came to this country June 2, 1879,



OSCAR RAPP

and settled in Chicago. At the age of sixteen years, he obtained employment at the Vaughn & Bushnell Mfg. Co., where he learned his trade as die sinker and machinist. After twelve years with the same firm, he left in order to better himself. For about four years he worked in different machine shops of Chicago. In 1896, he formed a partnership with Axel Blomfeldt, establishing the firm of Blomfeldt and Rapp, for the purpose of manufacturing special machinery, dies and tools. The machine shop is at 39-45 W. Randolph st. The firm has been highly successful and its business is constantly on the increase.

JOSEPH MAGNUS HEDENVALL

was born in St. Clara parish, Stockholm, Sweden, July 22, 1864. He first attended the Beskow Academy and later the St. Clara collegiate school. Then he devoted himself to agriculture for some time, and took a course at Lidsta Agricultural College. Being smitten with the so-called "America craze," he emigrated in the spring of 1883, in company with the present Rev. Joseph Danielson and his brother. They settled at St. Mary's, Kansas, whence Mr. Hedenvall in 1885 proceeded westward to California.



JOSEPH MAGNUS HEDENVALL

After a short stay here, he continued the journey to Alaska and the Bering Sea, where he took

up the occupation of otter and seal fishing. In 1886 he returned to Sweden, but the following year again set out for America, now locating in Brooklyn. After having made another visit to Sweden, he came to Chicago in the spring of 1891. Here he has been employed by several of the leading clothing houses, amongst others as manager of the clothing department in the well-known department store of Sidney Mandl on East Division Street.

HUGO J. LIEDBERG

was born in the city of Vexiö, Sweden, in the year 1872. He



HUGO J. LIEDBERG

came to this country with his parents when he was six years old. Hugo Liedberg attended the public schools in Chicago. Subsequently he took a course of studies at the Art Institute of Chicago in order to prepare himself for his chosen work. He also studied at a technical school in Pennsylvania. After having worked as a draughtsman for ten years, he opened his own offices in 1896. He is now at 173 Randolph st., where he continues as an active and progressive architect.

ERIC A. DAVIDSON

was born at Nya Kopparberget, Örebro län, Sweden, Oct. 23, 1858.



ERIC A. DAVIDSON

When nine years old he emigrated with the family to America. They settled at Trade Lake, Wis., where his father pre-empted a homestead and Eric worked on a farm. In 1879 Mr. Davidson entered the Swedish M. E. Theological Seminary from which he graduated in 1882. He continued his studies at Northwestern University, obtaining the degree of A. B. in 1888. Mr. Davidson was called to the pastorate of a church in Boston. His stay of two years enabled him to pursue studies at Boston University. In 1891 he became pastor of the church in

Kingsburg, Cal. The next year he was appointed presiding elder of the Swedish Methodist district of California. Three years later he became instructor in English at the Swedish M. E. Seminary in Evanston, Ill., and pastor of the church in Waukegan. During that year he entered Bennett Medical College, Chicago, from which he graduated in 1898. He is also a graduate of Rush Medical College, the medical department of the University of Chicago.

Since then Dr. Davidson has devoted all his time to his professional practice.

In religion Dr. Davidson still retains his connection with the Methodist Church. In politics he is an independent.

G. ARVID HAGSTROM

was born in Sundsvall, Sweden, Sept. 8, 1867, and came to America in 1868 with his parents, who located in Red Wing, Minn. He thence moved to Minneapolis, where he received his early education in the public schools and at a business college. At fifteen years of age he joined the First Swedish Baptist Church of that city, and was known as an active and earnest worker. In 1889 he entered the Theological Seminary at Morgan Park, Ill. Graduating in 1892, he became pastor of the English Baptist Church of Newark, Ill. The following year he accepted a position as Swedish Baptist Sunday School Missionary for the State of Illinois, which position he filled in a very creditable manner for three years, laying the foundation for an excellent system of Sunday School work. In 1896 he accepted a call to the First Swedish Baptist Church of Chicago, where he faithfully and zealously labored for ten



G. ARVID HAGSTROM

years. He has served as vice president of the Board of Trustees of the General Conference of Swedish Baptists of America, president for several years of the Swedish Baptist Young People's Union, vice-president of the Swedish Baptist Sunday School Society of Illinois, treasurer of the Swedish Baptist Conference of Illinois, editor of *Församlingen och Hemmet*, a religious monthly, and one of the editors of the hymn books, "Valda Sånger" and "Triumf-Sånger." He was for a time associate editor of the Swedish Baptist young people's paper and of *Hemmets Vän*.

Mr. Hagstrom, in 1892, married Miss Caroline W. Anderson, from Waconia, Minn., born Jan. 21, 1865, who has proved herself to

be an accomplished, tactful and lovable woman and an ideal minister's wife. There is a daughter, Marion Abigail Edith, born Oct. 31, 1903.

Mr. Hagstrom takes an active part in promoting every interest of his denomination. He is president of the Swedish Baptist Home for the Aged, known as Fridhem, at Morgan Park; president of the Scandinavian-American Jewish Mission, also one of the founders of the Bethany Beach Assembly Summer School for Christian Workers, at Sawyer, Mich.

Rev. Mr. Hagstrom resigned his charge of the First Swedish Baptist Church in Chicago in October 1906, to become missionary and corresponding secretary of the Swedish Baptist General Conference of America, and took up his new work Jan. 1, 1907.

OSCAR CALEB NYLUND,

Doctor of Dental Surgery, was born in Askersund, Sweden, March 23, 1874. His father, being a railroad man, was often transferred from place to place, and the son spent his youth in Ervalla, Vesterås, Lindesberg, Nora, and Bofors. He studied first at Nora, and later attended the Manual Training School of Karlskoga. Next he secured a position on the Nora and Karlskoga railroad, at Otterbäcken, but as he had little liking for that kind of work, he soon left it, and accepted a position with an implement firm in Stockholm, in the spring of 1890. Two years later he left for America, and arrived in Chicago Apr. 26, 1892. Here he secured a place



OSCAR CALEB NYLUND

with Marshall Field and Co., where he remained three years, in the meantime attending evening school at the Chicago Athenæum. Later he was employed by the banking firm of Edward H. Ericson & Co. He afterwards studied dentistry, graduating at the Northwestern University Dental School April 6, 1899, having since practiced his profession in Chicago. His office is located in the Bush Temple of Music, at Clark St., and Chicago Ave.

Dr. Nylund is a member of the Illinois State Dental Society, the Chicago Odontographic Society and the Scandinavian-American Dental Society of Chicago. He holds membership in the following fraternal orders and clubs: the St. Cecilia Chapter, R. A. M., Lincoln Park Lodge No. 611, A. F. & A. M. Monitor Council No. 1414, Royal

Arcanum, and the Swedish Glee Club. In the Monitor Council he has been collector for ten years and in the Glee Club he has served as secretary, vice president and member of the board of trustees.

Dr. Nylund was married Dec. 5, 1900, to Miss Anna Hvitfeldt, of Chicago, born Aug. 23, 1879. Their children are, Ruth Maria Elizabeth, born Sept. 20, 1901, and Berenice, born Oct. 28, 1905.

CHARLES J. DAHLGREN

was born in Småland, Sweden, March 15, 1858. He emigrated to



CHARLES J. DAHLGREN

America in 1872 and settled in Chicago, where he engaged in the grocery business for seven years, subsequently changing to that of undertaker. He has continued in that line of business for over fifteen years at 5820 Wentworth ave. Mr. Dahlgren was county commissioner in 1898-1901 and has served as trustee of the Swedish Lutheran Church in Englewood for several years. Nov. 22, 1879 he was married to Amelia Carlson. There are five children in the family, Oscar W., Albert J., Anna and Walter.

PETER JOHN PLANTIN

was born in Norra Strö, Skåne, Sweden, July 7, 1854, the son of



PETER J. PLANTIN

John Person and his wife Johanna Plantin. Both parents have died in recent years at the old homestead. He attended grammar school in his youth, and later was apprenticed to a carpenter contractor, remaining five years in his employ. In the fall of 1881, shortly after coming to America, he obtained work in Chicago as carpenter and worked for others until 1891, when he engaged in business for himself as building contractor. His residence is at 1696 Buckingham place.

Mr. Plantin was married Apr.

5, 1884, to Miss Matilda Nelson. Their children with year of birth are Ethel, E. 1885, Minnie J. W. 1887, Mildred, E. 1889, and Frida M., 1892.

Mr. Plantin is a member of the I. O. S. being at present treasurer of the Svithiod Lodge, also of the King Oscar Lodge, A. F. and A. M., Oriental Consistory and Medina Temple, Mystic Shrine.

C. PHILIP EKBLOM

was born Feb. 6, 1859, in Södertelje, Sweden. He emigrated to



C. PHILIP EKBLOM

America in 1880. For thirteen years he worked at his trade of harnessmaking, in Woburn, Mass., Keene, N. H., and in Hartford, Conn. In the spring of 1893 he accepted an offer of L. Kiper & Sons to go to Chicago and take charge of one of the departments in their saddlery manufactory, which is now claimed to be the largest of its kind in this country. This position has ever since been filled by Mr. Ekblom. He is prominent in the Masonic fraternity and has served as Master of King Oscar Lodge. Mr. Ekblom is also a well-known member of the Maccabees.

NELS J. JOHNSON

was born at Huaröd, Skåne, Sweden, November 1, 1870, and



NELS. J. JOHNSON

emigrated to America in 1891. He performed common labor during the first two years after his arrival. When he had obtained a sufficient knowledge of English he took a six months' course in the Metropolitan Business College, then served the city in the capacity of a police operator for two years. In the meantime he acquired a taste for studying law and consequently entered the Kent College of Law, from which he graduated after two years. He was admitted to the bar in June, 1897. He im-

mediately opened a law office at 1144-1148 Unity Building, where he is still located.

Mr. Johnson joined the South Park Lodge Masons in Chicago in 1896, was one of the charter members of King Oscar Lodge, of which he has been secretary from its institution, and is a 32d degree Mason and Shriner. He is also a member of the I. O. O. F.

EMIL J. HOLT

was born May 18, 1862, in Holtljunga Parish, Vestergötland, Sweden. He went with his parents to Halmstad when a small child. After attending private schools there about four years, he continued his studies in the Latin school, for five years. He early showed a talent for drawing, some of his work winning honorable



EMIL J. HOLT

mention and a prize. In 1879 he emigrated to America, and, after about one year's stay in Chicago, he went to New Orleans, where he studied art and designing for three years. Then after attending the art school at Washington University in St. Louis, Mr. Holt, in 1889, settled in Chicago as a portrait and landscape painter. Since studying at the Art Academy, he has opened an art store and studio in Lake View.

FRANK H. HENDRICKSON

was born in Chicago, January 2, 1872. He was one year old when



FRANK H. HENDRICKSON

his parents moved to Webster co., Iowa. His father bought a farm in the vicinity of Ft. Dodge where young Hendrickson spent his childhood. He attended the common schools and then took a course at Luther Academy, but did not graduate. In June, 1897, he moved to North Dakota where he filed on a homestead. After farming until Aug. 1901, he sold his farm and moved to Chicago. He is a graduate of the Chicago School of

Psychology, and the Edison School of Electro-therapy. He is at present engaged in the realty business, with office at Chappell, Neb.

ALBERT RUNDBLAD

was born Sept. 17, 1865, in Sundsvall, Sweden. He completed the



ALBERT RUNDBLAD

courses offered at the local manual training school and the Vesternorrland collegiate school. Emigrating to the United States in 1886, he worked as a woodcarver for four years and then became a real estate broker in Chicago. His office is at 88 Washington st. He is a director in several mining corporations and takes an active part in the business and social life of the city. He is a member of Knights of Pythias, King Oscar Lodge of Free Masons and of the Mystic Shrine. He was married in 1902 to Miss Ella Wallin.

JOHAN FREDRIK JOHNSON

was born March 20, 1859, in Lund, Knätte parish, Elfsborg län, Swed-



JOHAN FREDRIK JOHNSON

en. After a course of instruction in the Göteborg Commercial Institute, he was employed by C. J. Kronker & Co., one of the fashionable tailoring firms of Göteborg. At the age of seventeen years he went to London, England. Thence he made a trip to India and China. Going in 1880 to Chicago, he began to work at his trade and is at the present time a vest manufacturer at 157 Gault Court. Mr. Johnson was married in 1887 to May Elizabeth Smith of Chicago. They have been blessed with four sons and one daughter. Mr. and Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are members of the English M. E. Church and reside at 1274 Wilton ave. Mr. Johnson is in the ranks of the Columbian Knights.

NEWMAN BROTHERS.

Gustave R. Newman was born Dec. 14, 1851, at Stensnäs, in



GUSTAVE R. NEWMAN

Ukna parish, Småland, Sweden. Here also were born his brothers, Charles W. Newman, on August 15, 1853, and John A. Newman. The three brothers emigrated together in 1865. After gaining fifteen years' commercial experience they formed a partnership on May 1, 1880, and started the manufacture of parlor and chapel organs at 63 West Washington st. Their business increased so that the factory gradually came to occupy 63, 65 and 67 Washington st. In Aug. 1887, a fire occured in the factory and they then moved into a larger factory at 38-40 S. Canal st. A second fire in Apr. 1889, again compelled them to move. Their factory was temporarily established at Wells st. and Institute Place (then Pearson st.) They later moved to the new factory built for them at 5-17 Dix st and W. Chicago ave. The business was in 1892 incorporated as Newman Brothers Co. The firm lost, at this juncture, one of its members, John A. Newman, who died Sept. 30, 1894. By 1895 the demand for their organs had so increased as to make Newman Brothers Co. among the foremost organ manufacturers in the country. Perceiving that they had a market for a high-grade piano they equipped themselves during this year for a new venture. From several scales they selected one drawn by E. Becker, an old and experienced craftsman who had thirty-five years practice in building pianos. Guided by his skill and under the personal supervision



CHARLES W. NEWMAN

of Gustave R. Newman, the firm has built a high-grade piano which is ever increasing its reputation. The demand for this piano has compelled the erection, in 1900,

of a six story building, 50x100 ft., adjacent to the older five-story factory. The majority of men employed by Newman Brothers Co. are Swedes. Newman Brothers Co.'s factory is one of the largest enterprises conducted by Swedes in the United States. Gustave R. Newman is now president and Charles W. Newman is secretary and treasurer. They reside at 523 and 527 Orchard St.

ANDERS L. LÖFSTRÖM

was born in the city of Malmö, in Skåne, Sweden, October 30,



ANDERS L. LÖFSTRÖM

1864. His childhood days were spent on the shores of the sea and there was early kindled in his mind a desire to become a sailor. At the age of ten he went to sea, as cabin-boy. For several years he worked on shipboard on vessels plying between the ports of he North Sea and the Baltic, and thereafter took hire on a large sailing vessel in which he for the first time crossed the ocean. He thereafter sailed for many years to various parts of the world, making several visits to America. Here it was that he was first placed in command of a vessel, after passing a satisfactory shipmaster's examination before the Navigation Board at Salem, Massachusetts. In 1880 he came to Chicago and for a few years was in command of several vessels plying on the Great Lakes.

In 1896 Captain Löfström was married to Miss Matilda Maria Larson, of Ulricehamn, Sweden. The year before he had quit the life of a seaman and settled down in Chicago as a tobacconist, on Oak st., in the center of a populous Swedish district. To this business he has since added a stationery and book store, and a printing shop.

In 1906 Captain Löfström moved his business to 1719 N. Clark st., where he conducts a well equipped store.

Though his early education was limited, poetry and prose sketches which have appeared in his *Dalkullan Kalender* show that he possesses a talent of no mean order.

Captain Löfström is one of the organizers and charter members of King Oscar Lodge of Masons, and also belongs to the Odd Fellows, the Independent Order of Vikings, the Svithiod and Orpheus Singing Clubs, and several other organizations.

ALFRED HAKANSON,

Physician and Surgeon, was born May 12, 1866, at Geneseo, Ill. His parents, John and Hanna



ALFRED HAKANSON

Hakanson, were natives of Kristianstad, Sweden, and immigrated 1859 to this country, locating in Moline, being among the earliest Swedish settlers in that vicinity. They had five children of whom Alfred was the youngest.

After some years the family moved out to Nebraska, where the doctor received his public school education, which he finished at the high school at Oakland. Thereupon he entered Luther Academy at Wahoo, same state, graduating in 1886. From there he went to Augustana College, Rock Island, pursuing studies for some time, and then began a medical course at the Omaha Medical College of the University of Nebraska, from which institution he graduated in 1890.

During his medical studies he had the advantage of having as preceptor Dr. D. G. Bryant, Professor of diseases of the Eye and Ear at the medical department of Creighton University, Omaha, and J. B. Ralph, City Physician of Omaha. After graduating in medicine he first located in Rockford, Ill., but removed the following year, 1891, to Chicago, where since he has very successfully pursued his chosen profession. During his residence in South Chicago he was for two years county physician for that territory. He was also a member of the medical staff of South Chicago Hospital for two years, 1899 and 1900. In 1895 Dr. Hakanson took a special post-graduate course at the New York Post Graduate Hospital, and at the principal hospitals of Philadelphia and Baltimore. During the year 1901 he made an extensive trip through Europe, visiting the principal cities of Great Britain, Germany, Denmark and Sweden. While staying in London pursuing opthalmic studies, he received an appointment as clinical assistant to Dr. A. Stanford Morton, Opthalmic Surgeon to the Royal London Opthalmic Hospital in London, and served in this capacity during six months.

Dr. Hakanson is now making a specialty of eye, ear, nose and throat diseases, and has his office in the Reliance Building, 100 State Street, Chicago.

Dr. Hakanson is a member of the American Medical Association, the Illinois State Medical Society

and the Chicago Medical Society, and has attended several of the American Med. Assocation's annual conventions as a delegate. He is attending physician at Chicago Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital, Chief Laryngologist and Rhinologist of the Augustana Hospital, also senior attending surgeon to the department of the eye, ear, nose and throat at Washington Park Hospital. The doctor is a member of several beneficial and fraternal associations.

Dr. Hakanson was married in 1892 to Miss Bertha W. Lindberg, whose parents were among the first Swedish settlers in Chicago, having emigrated from Lund, Sweden, in 1864. A daughter, Ethel Evelyn, was born September 13, 1905. They reside at 6010 So. Park ave., near Washington Park.

SAMUEL ANDERSON

was born in Landa parish, in the province of Halland, Sweden, Aug. 14, 1840, and came to this country in the spring of 1870, locating in Chicago, which has since been his home. For some time after his arrival, he worked at the carpenter's trade, afterwards engaging in the manufacture of what has been called "the poor man's butter," otherwise known in the market as oleomargarine, or butterine, which proved a phenomenal success as a business venture. Mr. Anderson never carried on the business in his own name, however, but acted as superintendent for the firm of Braun & Fitts, which position he held for 32 years. During the period of the



SAMUEL ANDERSON

greatest demand for their product this firm manufactured as much as 2,000,000 lbs. a month. It should be stated that they always sold their product under its real name and never tried to pass it off as genuine butter, with which, however, it soon came in competition both in taste and nutritive qualities.

During the last few years he has superintended the butterine plant of George P. Braun, former business partner in the firm of Braun & Fitts.

Immediately after arriving at Chicago, Mr. Anderson joined the Immanuel Swedish Lutheran Church, of which he has ever since been an active, zealous and highly respected member. For more than thirty years he has been a member of the church council, and in 1872 he was a member of the

building committee which had in charge the erection of the present church on Sedgwick st. He has also taken great interest in missions, educational and charitable work. He is at present member of the Board of Directors of Augustana College, the principal Swedish-American institution of learning, and is likewise one of the directors of Augustana Hospital in Chicago.

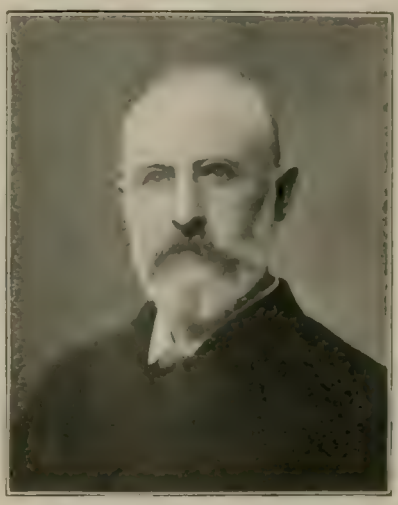
Mr. Anderson has been married twice. His first wife, Maria Gustafva Anderson, died in 1878. Of five children born to them all died young. Oct. 15, 1879, he married Miss Ida Louisa Anderson from Södra Ljunga, Småland. This marriage has been blessed with seven children of whom five are still living. Selma Malinda Emanuela, the eldest daughter, is the wife of Anton Emil Peterson; another daughter, Anna Maria, married Edward Linn, and the third daughter, Mabel Wilhelmina, is Mrs. J. L. Oakleaf of Moline, Ill. The sons are, Hjalmar Emanuel and Arthur Emil Nathanael.

The inventor and manufacturer of "the poor man's butter" has ever endeavored to alleviate the sufferings of the poor, in innumerable ways, by an extensive philanthropy, and has also given munificent sums to churches, charitable and educational institutions. To Mr. Anderson's credit it should be added, that in all this he has never sought recognition or praise, acting solely on the promptings of a large and benevolent heart.

The residence of Mr. Anderson and family is at 694 North Park ave.

ERIK WINGREN,

editor of *Nya Wecko-Posten*, was born in Mårdsjö, Stugun parish,



ERIK WINGREN

Jämtland, Sweden, Dec. 17, 1843. At the age of sixteen years he was converted and a few years afterward baptized in the Baptist faith by A. Hjälm, pastor at Ragunda. Being the first in the neighborhood to break with the state church and cleave to a comparatively unknown faith, against which there existed much prejudice, his act attracted much attention. He was long the only Baptist in the district. Having received private instruction, he attended an academy in Sundsvall. He was the first student of the Bethel Seminary in Stockholm when it opened. After the completion of his studies he became pastor of a

congregation in Sundsvall which he had served at times while a student. He also conducted a school for female teachers for a short time.

In the summer of 1869 Mr. Wingren removed to Kristianstad and served the congregation there over a year, at the same time preaching in various parts of the district.

Meanwhile he especially endeavored to awaken and strengthen the missionary instinct in these congregations and met with encouragement, encountering, however, many difficulties on account of peculiar ideas and views which had crept into the congregation from lack of education. This caused him to seek a new field. Malmö appeared to be a more promising one. He moved there and began his work in the fall of 1870. A congregation was formed, whose pastor he became. He remained there ten years and saw the congregation grow from five to one hundred and fifty members. During this period he took up missionary work in Lund, Trelleborg and several other places with encouraging results. A congregation was formed in Trelleborg with thirty members. Another was later formed in Lund. During these years he had, in part, the charge of the missionary work in Skåne and the western part of Småland. He also visited Halland in the same interests. In order to obtain co-workers he conducted a summer school for the education of preachers and female school teachers. The last two years he published a monthly tract called *Hemmissionären*.

In response to a joint call issued by the Second Swedish Baptist Church in Chicago and the American Baptist Home Mission Society, the Rev. Mr. Wingren came to Chicago in March, 1880 and assumed pastoral charge of that church, also editing a newspaper founded by Dr. Edgren as the organ of the Swedish Baptist Church in America. Besides, he assisted Dr. Edgren as instructor in the theological seminary at Morgan Park. With three so important branches of activity he soon found it impossible to do them all justice. In the two years that Mr. Wingren had charge, the membership of the church increased from 33 to 150 and the Sunday school and Young People's Society became important factors in its development. Mr. Wingren founded two missions, one of which became a congregation.

In the summer of 1882 the Rev. Mr. Wingren, after a renewed call, accepted the pastorate of the First Swedish Baptist Church in Chicago. He remained in this charge until the autumn of 1884. During this time the congregation increased from 335 to 410 members, although a daughter congregation had been formed from it.

The newspaper, *Nya Wecko-Posten*, had now developed so as to require Mr. Wingren's whole attention. It was changed from a semi-monthly to a weekly and has been increased in size from time

to time being now a 7-column, 8-page paper. The public has valued Mr. Wingren's work on this paper and has given him constant encouragement, so that it has now a greater circulation than any other Swedish Baptist newspaper.

Pastor Wingren was married Nov. 14, 1870, to Miss Bianca Henrietta Christina Ohman, who has always taken a warm interest in his activities. Their union has been blessed with ten children, eight of whom are living.

ERICK GUSTAF PETTERSON was born in Espenäs, in the Karlskoga mining district of Vermland,



ERICK GUSTAF PETTERSON

Sweden, Oct. 28, 1846. Having finished school, he left the shelter of the parental roof at the age of 18 years, and set out to learn a trade. During the summer months he worked as a carpenter, and in the winter he found employment at blacksmithing. In the summer of 1868 he emigrated to America and settled in Moline, Ill. Thence he went to Sagetown, and later secured employement at the great inland arsenal, maintained by the U. S. Government at Rock Island. From there he went to Chicago in 1851. Here he worked as carpenter for three years, and then engaged in business as building contractor. This was no easy matter in such times of depression as the years following the great panic of 1873, but with matchless energy and an iron will he overcame all obstacles, and by integrity, skill and care achieved success.

While supervising work in daytime, Mr. Petterson spent his evenings studying architecture. He has superintended the erection of a number of important buildings, and has drawn the plans for a number of Swedish churches and parsonages in Illinois. From 1887 to 1891 Mr. Petterson was a member of the School Board of South Chicago (Englewood) district. He has also been an active member of the Bethlehem Swedish Lutheran Church of Englewood since its organization in 1875. For fifteen years he served as treasurer, and for twenty-three years as trustee. He has also been vice president of the board of directors of the Augustana Hospital, and a member of the board of directors of the Swedish Lutheran Orphans Home in Joliet since its foundation. The buildings for this home have been erected under Mr. Petterson's direction.

Mr. Petterson is now chairman and superintendent of the Swedish Home Building and Loan Association. He has served as chairman of the building committee of Augustana Hospital and as superintendent of building operations. As a member of the first board of the Salem Home for the Aged at Joliet, he superintended the erection of its building in 1906.

In 1877, Mr. Petterson married Miss Carolina W. Johnson, and their union has been blessed with three daughters. The home is at 5762 Wentworth ave.

JOHN E. NORLING

was born Jan. 13, 1859, at Bishop Hill, Ill. His parents were Anders



JOHN E. NORLING.

and Elizabeth Norling, from Stålbo in Nora parish, Sweden. They emigrated from Sweden in October 1854, crossing the Atlantic in a sailing vessel, requiring thirteen weeks for the voyage.

Reaching New York they proceeded directly to Bishop Hill, joining the Swedish colony founded there by Erik Jansson, and remaining until it was dissolved in 1863, when they removed to a farm in the vicinity.

John E. Norling had more taste for business than agriculture. Equipped with a high school education, he became a drug clerk, and at the age of twenty he was manager of L. P. Ek's drug store in Galva, Ill. Later, he and his brothers, P. O. and A. D. Norling bought this store, and opened drug stores at Nekoma and Bishop Hill.

In the fall of 1881, Mr. Norling engaged in the land and colonization business, operating west of the Missouri. Together with his brother A. D. Norling he also established in Nebraska a ranch of several thousand acres stocked with cattle, horses and swine.

In 1889 the stores were disposed of and Mr. Norling devoted himself to industrial enterprises. He was one of the organizers of the Mulford Steam Heating Company at Streator, Ill., being chosen secretary and treasurer. After two years he left this position to engage in the real estate and land business in Chicago. He was one of the promoters of the settlements of Las Animas, Colo., and El Campo, Texas. His diversified interests soon embraced gold mining, and he has been prominently connected with the Magnolia and the Wood Mountain mining enterprises. When in August, 1900, *Svenska Tribunen*, a Swedish weekly newspaper

printed in Chicago, was offered for sale, Mr. Norling, together with his brother, P. O. Norling, and S. E. Carlsson, bought the paper and soon after acquired *Fosterlandet*, a religious weekly, and a year later became sole owner of both papers.

As early as 1892 Mr. Norling's attention was called to the possibilities of an automatic telephone by its inventor, F. A. Lundquist. The practicability of the invention having been proven by the installation of several exchanges, the Globe Automatic Telephone Co. was organized in 1901, with Mr. Norling as president, for the purpose of manufacturing instruments on a large scale. Simultaneously Mr. Norling was heavily interested also in the Monarch Telephone Manufacturing Co., and was president of the concern. In 1905 he sold his newspapers, and ill health more recently has compelled him to dispose of part of his other business interests.

Dec. 30, 1890, Mr. Norling was married to Christine Erickson, born March 9, 1859, in Nora parish, Vestmanland, Sweden. They have two daughters — Lillian May, born May 1, 1894, and Ruth Elizabeth, born June 11, 1897.

Mr. Norling is a Mason, and a member of the Marquette Club, the New Illinois Athletic Association, the Swedish Glee Club, and the Svithiod Singing Club. The family residence is at 801 Burling st., Lake View.

ROBERT HJALMAR PALM

was born Aug. 13, 1866, in Domnarfvet, province of Dalarne, Swe-



ROBERT HJALMAR PALM

den. His father, William Palm, was a sawyer. Robert attended the public school until he was fourteen years old and had been confirmed in the state church. For two years he worked in the saw mills. At the age of seventeen years he secured employment in the machine shop of the iron mills at Domnarfvet remaining for about two years. In 1886 he went to America and came on to Chicago, where he soon secured work in a machine shop. Realizing the need of theoretical training, he began taking evening courses in the free grammar school for several years, after which he studied mechanical drawing in the evening North Division High School. Subsequently he studied business at the Metropolitan Business College, architectural training at the Art Institute

and graphical statics at the Athenaeum. A final course was taken at Columbia Business College in the construction of gearings and in mechanical drawing. In the meantime Mr. Palm had worked for twelve years in the pattern shop of S. H. Sinclair Co. In 1898 he started his own business on the north side. For five years he has had his machine shop at 43-45 So. Canal st., where he makes a specialty of laundry machinery, the plant being known as the Chicago Rival Machine Co. Twelve different styles of machines for hand and steam power are designed and constructed by him. Mr. Palm belongs to the I. O. V.

Aug. 31, 1905, he was married to Miss Clara Florence Lord, born at Chaffe, N. Y., Feb. 8, 1858.

JOHN N. SANDBLOM

was born July 6, 1871, in Falköping, Vestergötland, Sweden. At the age of seven years he was brought to Stockholm, the family locating there. His early education was obtained in private schools and in the high school. He left Sweden in 1893 bound for Chicago, and began the study of dentistry at the Northwestern Dental School in 1897. After three years of hard work he was graduated with the highest honors, and was then made demonstrator at the school in token of his high scholarship. After serving a year in this capacity his private practice had grown to such proportions that he resigned the position.

In 1905 Dr. Sandblom went to Europe to give a course of demonstrations in American dentistry to the dental profession in the



JOHN N. SANDBLOM

Scandinavian countries. Beginning in Christiania, his course proved so popular that a second one had to be given, and the proposed courses in Stockholm and Copenhagen were abandoned. In July of that year Dr. Sandblom read a paper before the Scandinavian Dental Congress held in the Danish capital.

Dr. Sandblom's visit to Christiania resulted in his being called as dean of the Dental School of the New Institute of Technology in that city, a government institution connected with the Christiania University. Dr. Sandblom returned to Chicago to await the result of the pending negotiations between Sweden and Norway anent the dissolution of the Union, before definitely accepting the appointment, and departed for his

new post late in the year. He still maintains his dental office in the Masonic Temple.

Dr. Sandblom is an accomplished skater, having won many trophies, medals and cups in Europe and America for skill and speed. In 1896 he won the championship for this country and defended it twice. He belongs to the Delta Sigma Delta Fraternity and served while in Chicago as president of the Scandinavian Dental Society. Dr. Sandblom was married in 1900 to Ellen F. Chinlund.

JOHN NELSON

was born at Ousby, Skåne, Sweden, June 20, 1851. His youth



JOHN NELSON

and early manhood were spent in the old country, where he learned the trade of stone cutting. For nine years he was employed by the government in the construction of railroad bridges and station houses. In 1881 he emigrated to America and made his home in in Chicago. Thence he went out west, and found employment at his trade in California. In 1883 he returned to Chicago. From 1897 he has been engaged in the business of cut stone contractor until 1904, when he sold out to the firm of Anderson & Lundgren.

For many years he has been an active worker in the independent Mission Church in Englewood, having served fourteen years in the church council.

Mr. Nelson is married since 1887 to Miss Johanna Matilda Johnson from Sköfde, Sweden.

JULIUS SODERSTAM

was born in Jemshög, Blekinge, Sweden, on February 25, 1859.



JULIUS SODERSTAM

His father was a gentleman farmer, who sent his son to high school and then to the renowned Alnarp Royal Agricultural Institute. Young Soderstam graduated in 1881

as agricultural engineer. He was a civil engineer's instrument man at the survey for the State Trunk R. R. in Northern Sweden. Subsequently he took a course at Skeppsholmen Theoretical School of Agriculture. Now he became superintendent on a large estate and there remained until 1884, when he visited Germany, England and Scotland to further his knowledge of scientific agriculture. Mr. Soderstam went from Scotland to Chicago, where he found it so congenial that he concluded to settle there. He worked first at surveying and later at railroad and canal building. He was one of the first engineers engaged with the construction of the Drainage Canal, and is still working in the construction office of this waterway. Mr. Soderstam was married in 1888 to Miss Sophie Jansson, with whom he has had three children, of whom two daughters, Elsie and Vivian, are still living. Mr. Soderstam has taken an active interest in Republican politics.

NILS OLSON

was born Sept. 28, 1870, in Rock Island, Ill., where he attended the public schools for thirteen years and graduated with highest honors from the city high school in 1888. He came to Chicago in 1891 and soon after was employed by the Dime Savings Bank as note teller, continuing there until 1897. In June of that year he graduated from the Chicago College of Law and took the post-graduate course under Ex-Judge Moran.

June 23, 1897, he was admitted to the bar by the Supreme Court



NILS OLSON

of Illinois and has been engaged in the practice of law from that time on. Mr. Olson is a resident of Englewood. His office is at 161 E. Randolph st.

Oct. 10, 1901, Mr. Olson was married to Miss Matilda Backman, daughter of W. W. and Mary Backman of Chicago. Mr. and Mrs. Olson are members of the Englewood Baptist Church, and Mr. Olson belongs to the Fraternity Club and the Royal League. In 1905 he was elected Secretary of the Scandia Loan and Investment Association of Chicago.

CARL JOHN BJÖRK,

minister of the Swedish Mission Church, was born in Mönsterås parish, Småland, April 24, 1864. He emigrated to the United States in 1887 and settled in New Britain, Conn. After completing his theo-

logical studies at North Park College, Chicago, he was ordained as



CARL JOHN BJÖRK

a minister in the Swedish Ev. Mission Covenant of America. He has had charges at Irving Park and Maplewood, Chicago, and at Nunda, Ill. Recently he accepted a call to Salemsburg, Kansas, where he is pastor of the Swedish Mission Church.

The Rev. Mr. Björk was married to Julia Carlson, Feb. 2, 1889. They have two daughters, Gertrude and Helen.

MONS S. NORD

was born April 28, 1860, at Fjelkestad, Skåne, Sweden, where his father was a farmer. After finishing the course in the high school at Önnestad, he entered the Swedish postal service, retaining his position until Jan. 1, 1888, when he left the service intending to leave the country. The following spring he emigrated. Coming to the United States, he settled first at Osage City, Kansas, and then at Topeka, where he made his first venture in business as proprietor of a barber shop. Oct. 8, 1891, Mr. Nord was united in marriage to Miss Hanna Nelson from Holmby, Skåne, Sweden. In 1897 Mr. Nord removed to Chicago. He is a member of the First Swedish Baptist Church of this city. In 1898-99 he served as secre-



MONS S. NORD

tary of the executive committee of the Swedish Baptist Sunday School Union of Illinois. He was collector of the jubilee fund designed to perpetuate the memory of the founding of the Swedish Baptist Church in this country.

He has further shown much interest in political, temperance and philanthropic matters. Mr. Nord was for years special representative for the New York Life Insurance Co. and has in later years been dealing in land, stocks and bonds.

ERIC SCHERSTROM

was born in Bergsjö, Helsingland, Sweden, on the 25th of June, 1874. He emigrated from Sweden



ERIC SCHERSTROM

at the age of nineteen, and arrived in America in June, 1893. He first resided in Minnesota, staying for some time in Isanti county, and from there moved to Minneapolis. After having lived in Minneapolis for a period, he went to Lake Nebogemain, Wis., and from this place he came to Chicago to take up studies at the Swedish Baptist Theological Seminary of the University of Chicago. On May 14, 1902, Mr. Scherstrom was graduated from the seminary and then assumed pastoral charge of the Swedish Baptist Tabernacle Church of South Chicago. Recently Mr. Scherstrom removed to Portland, Ore. having been called to the Swedish Baptist Church in that city.

JOHN HENRY LINDAHL

was born in Skatlöf parish, in the province of Småland, Sweden, Jan. 27, 1859. At the age of eleven years he emigrated to America, the place of his destination being Sycamore, Ill. When fourteen years old he commenced to work for the Marsh Harvester Co., where he learned the machinist's trade. In 1881 he came to Chicago where he worked in the same trade, for several companies. In the fall of 1897 he started in business for himself on a small scale. This has grown at a rapid pace, and



JOHN HENRY LINDAHL

he now occupies his own building at 276–8 W. Lake st., where he makes a specialty of pulleys and sheaves.

Aug. 13, 1881, Mr. Lindahl was married to Miss Betsey Nelson, of Sycamore, Ill., and to them have been born eight children, of whom six are still living.

JOHN P. EDSTRAND

was born in the year 1865, at Kjellstorp, in the parish of Lous-



JOHN P. EDSTRAND

hult, Skåne, Sweden. When a mere boy, thirteen years of age, he went to work in a general store in his native place. Here he continued until the year of 1886, when the desire to improve his fortunes took possession of him and impelled him to emigrate.

Coming directly to Chicago, and having a strong desire to engage in a mechanical business of some kind, he at once found such an opportunity and started to learn the trade of electroplating. Beginning as a metal polisher, he went through all the various departments, mastering the trade in a short time.

In 1895 Mr. Edstrand, together with Mr. Olof Olson, founded a new firm under the name of Edstrand & Olson, to carry on the business of electroplating. The start was a small one, but by their able management, the facility with which they dispatched work and the exceptional quality of their nickelplating, the business had a remarkably rapid growth. To-day it equals, if it does not exceed in magnitude, any similar business in Chicago.

Mr. Edstrand is thoroughly engrossed with his business, which fact has assured his success.

PETER O. HOLMQUIST

was born in Hofva parish, in the province of Vestergötland, Sweden, Dec. 24, 1864. He spent his early days in the place of his birth, where he received the ordinary public school training. When



PETER O. HOLMQUIST

he became of age, he emigrated to America, locating in Chicago in 1880. The following year he began the manufacture of ladders and other specialties of wood. Later, curtain stretchers were among

the products turned out, and the sale of these has been highly gratifying. The firm of Holmquist & Co. now employs some seventy-five workmen.

Mr. Holmquist with his family, composed of his wife, Josephine, née Söderberg, and two sons, reside at 1389 N. Washtenaw ave.

GUSTAV SUNDBERG

was born at Sörfors, Attmar parish, Vesternorrland, Sweden, Sept.



GUSTAV SUNDBERG

23, 1869. Having attended the parish school up to the age of fifteen, he secured employment in the Sörfors Iron Works, serving in the office three years, before starting in the foundry. In 1890 he left Sörfors to go to the United States. He settled in Chicago and secured a position with Joseph Charboneau. Later he was employed by his brother, J. A. Sundberg, with whom, in 1899, he went into partnership under the firm name of J. A. Sundberg & Co. Gustav Sundberg was made superintendent of the concern, which manufactures iron and steel forgings.

Mr. Sundberg has, by his skill and application to business, met with success in his line. That his abilities are coming to be recognized is shown by the fact that during the winter semesters of 1901–1902 and 1906–1907 he was engaged as instructor in the arts of his trade at the Lewis Institute, in Chicago.

SWAN SWANLUND

came to Chicago in May, 1867, from Sweden, where he was born July 12, 1846, at Sölvesborg.



Swan SWANLUND

The first few years in America he worked at cabinet-making. After the great fire he worked in various musical instrument factories and later was engaged in Estey & Camp's store. He has, for a num-

ber of years, been employed as a piano salesman by the Chickering-Chase Brothers Co.

Mr. Swanlund was married Sept. 30, 1870, to Miss Augusta Carlson, from Östergötland, Sweden, and has a family of one son and three daughters. He has taken great interest in church affairs since 1875, and is now a member of the Swedish Mission Church of Lake View. The family residence is at 1152 Newport ave.

STEPHAN CREUTZ

was born in Stockholm, Sweden, May 22, 1856. He came from



STEPHAN CREUTZ

one of the oldest families of the Swedish nobility, his father being Baron Stephan Creutz, Captain of the Grenadier Corps, Royal Life Guards, and Knight of the Order of the Sword. (R. S. O.) The mother's name was Hillevi Fredrika, née Norlin.

The son attended the Arboga Academy, Arboga Technical School and Ultuna Agricultural Institute. As a field for his energy he decided that the United States was the most promising, and came over June 23, 1879. From July, 1879, until the spring of 1880 he labored as a farm hand in New Jersey and Rhode Island. Early in 1880 he became foreman on a farm at Cowisett Station, near East Greenwich, R. I. After holding this position for about three years he left for Chicago in the fall of 1883. For four months he was a carpenter and for three years a street car conductor. In 1889 he passed the civil service examination for an appointment in the light house service. On May 1, 1889, he received an appointment as assistant light-house keeper. The following August, he was appointed inspector at the U. S. Engineer Office at Chicago. He has been engaged from that time to this as U. S. Inspector of River and Harbor Improvements. At present he is inspector of the Calumet River improvements.

At different times, when work has been slack in the Engineer Office, Mr. Creutz has filled positions with private firms, principally the Illinois Steel Co. and the Illinois Central Railway Co., superintending construction work. He was also for five or six months assistant inspector of road construction for the Columbian Exposition.

Mr. Creutz belongs to the Scandinavian Technical Society of Chi-

cago and the Windsor Park Lodge of the Masonic Order.

September 11, 1882, Mr. Creutz was married to Selma Fredrika Lee, in East Greenwich, R. I. Their children are Stephan, a student at the Armour Institute of Technology, and Hillevi Fredrika, a student at South Chicago High School. The family residence is at 7737 Bond ave. Mr. and Mrs. Creutz belong to the Swedish Lutheran Church in South Chicago.

OSCAR CHARLES PETERSON

was born Dec. 15, 1857, in the province of Småland, Sweden. He



OSCAR CHARLES PETERSON

accompanied his parents to America in 1868. They settled on a farm in Iowa. He was eager for knowledge and mapped out a course of studies for himself. At the age of 24 years he graduated from the Iowa State College at Ames, with the highest standing in several subjects, and a year later the degree M. Ph. was conferred upon him. During the following year he matriculated at the Iowa College of Law at Des Moines, and was graduated from this institution in 1884 as attorney at law. He practiced law at Des Moines, Iowa, until 1895, when he removed to Chicago, where he has an extensive practice. He was for several terms president of the Swedish National Association.

Mr. Peterson is a good public speaker and has been frequently heard on the lecture platform. He speaks Swedish and English with equal facility.

He is married to Miss Florence E. Felts, a lady of American birth. Two daughters are the issue of this union.

ANDREW W. FREDRICKSON,

President of North Park College, was born in Chicago, Feb. 13, 1871. His parents emigrated from Mjellby, Sweden, and located in Chicago in 1868. Their home having been destroyed by the fire of Oct. 9, 1871, they moved to Saline co., Kansas, locating on an 80-acre government homestead. Here the subject of this sketch grew up and learned to work hard, spending the winters in school and the summers in the field. At the age of seventeen, he was engaged to teach school in his home district. Here he taught for five consecutive winters, and spent a part of each summer at the Salina Normal University.

In 1893 he entered Bethany College, Lindsborg, Kansas, from which he graduated in 1896, with



ANDREW W. FREDRICKSON

the Bachelor's degree. In 1900 the degree of Master of Arts was conferred upon him by his Alma Mater, and an instructor's certificate to teach in the Normal Institute was given him by the Board of Education of the State of Kansas.

After his graduation he accepted a call to become the principal of the academic department of North Park College, Chicago, and entered upon his work with the zeal and enthusiasm of one who had found his life's work. His efforts in behalf of this institution have not been limited to the class room, but have reached out into wide circles, he having traveled and lectured in the interests of the college.

Born a Mission Friend, Prof. Fredrickson has taken an active interest in the Swedish Evangelical Mission Covenant and is a member of the church at North Park, Chicago.

Prof. Fredrickson is a public speaker, and devotes a considerable part of his time to the pulpit and to the platform.

When in 1905 Prof. David Nyvall resigned the presidency of North Park College, Prof. Fredrickson assumed the office as acting president, serving as such until regularly elected to the presidency in 1906 by the Mission Covenant, at its annual meeting in Minneapolis.

Prof. Fredrickson resides with his family in the president's residence on the college campus, corner of Foster and Spaulding aves.

OSCAR A. ROSS

was born in Stockholm, Sweden, Feb. 9, 1846. After acquiring a common school education he, at the age of 18 years, emigrated to America, locating at Ottawa, Canada. While there he changed his parental name Salzenstein for his present one. In 1868 he came to Chicago and established a labor agency, in which he has been engaged, with some interruptions, ever since. For two years he traveled for the Cunard Line and visited practically every western town and city east of Denver, Colo. In 1883 he made a trip to Stockholm and other Swedish cities, besides Paris, Berlin, Bremen, Liverpool, Queenstown, and London.

Mr. Ross was for 25 or 30 years a member of the Svea Society, and

for some years belonged to the Swedish Club. At present he



OSCAR A. ROSS

prides himself of not being a member of anything but his family. He has a wife and three children, a son and two daughters. The latter are married and live respectively in Los Angeles, Cal., and Kansas City, Mo.

CHARLES J. STROMBERG

was born in Karlshamn, Sweden, Feb. 12, 1838, and accompanied his parents to America in 1854, at the age of sixteen years. After a short stay in Westchester, Pa., and Lisletown, Mo., he went to Chicago in August, 1856. Here he was employed for seven years by the firm of W. B. Keen & Co., quitting his position in 1864 to join the Union army. Returning home the following year, he secured employment with the stationery firm of J. M. W. Jones & Co., and remained as clerk, manager, and member of the firm, successively, until 1888, when he left to form the present firm of Stromberg, Allen & Co., which has grown to be one of the largest printers in Chicago.

Mr. Stromberg was married in 1863, his wife's maiden name being Augusta J. Anderson. They have had one son, Charles J. Stromberg, Jr., who is engaged with the firm.



CHARLES J. STROMBERG

Mr. Stromberg's home was in Lake View, where he also served as trustee of the Lake View High School. His winter home since 1898 was at Fairhope, Ala. He died there March 12, 1904, after a lingering illness. The remains were buried at Graceland Cemetery, Chicago.

ANTON FREDRICK LINDQUIST

was born Sept. 20, 1858, in Stockholm, Sweden. Having secured a

common school education he became a locomotive fireman on the



ANTON FREDRICK LINDQUIST

Dannemora and Harg railway line. Later he was employed as machinist with the Harg Iron Works, a position retained until he left for America in 1880. Having located at Chicago, he at once took up the study of architecture and engineering in the office of Hugh Copeland. Mr. Lindquist later struck out for himself, establishing an architect's office of his own. He affiliates with the Swedish Lutheran Church and belongs to the Architects' Business Association. Mr. Lindquist was married in 1885 to Emily M. Anderson from Ödeshög, Östergötland. They have three sons and three daughters.

AXEL G. ENGWALL,

engineer in the Chicago fire department, was born on the island of Visingsö, in Lake Vettern, Sweden, Sept. 24, 1865. At the age of five years he was sent to the public school. After completing the course, he studied at the collegiate school in Jönköping for two years. After another two years spent at home, he left for America March 14, 1879. After drifting around in this country and working in various parts for two years, he finally went to Chicago in the fall of 1881. Here he took up the study of engineering, taking a three years' course in that subject. A few years later he was appointed assistant engineer in Engine Co.



AXEL G. ENGWALL

66. In 1892 he was promoted to First Engineer in Engine Co. 74, where he remained three years. He was then transferred to Engine Co. 12, where he is still stationed. Mr. Engwall is the inventor of the Combination Water Tower, at which he worked for about eight months, and on which he finally received his letters patent, Feb. 22, 1902.

In 1887 Miss Josephine Lindquist, from Grenna, Sweden, became the wife of Mr. Engwall. They have two boys, both living.

OLOF H. AHLGREN

was born in Mellby parish, Skåne, Sweden, Jan. 31, 1851. His father,



OLOF H. AHLGREN

Olof P. Ahlgren, a farmer, was also parish school master and legal counsellor of the village. In this country he engaged in carpentry. He died in Chicago March 5, 1906.

After obtaining a common school education the son emigrated in 1871. Chicago was his destination and there he worked for several years in the packing business. In 1875 Mr. Ahlgren became a grocer and tea merchant, continuing for about ten years. For the last twenty-one years he has been the proprietor of Hotel Stockholm, 52-56 E. Chicago ave.

Mr. Ahlgren belongs to the Knights of Pythias. He has been twice married. His first wife was Miss Mathilda S. Grönvall of Engelholm, Sweden, who became his wife March 4, 1877, and died in Chicago March 25, 1880. Jan. 29, 1885, Mr. Ahlgren was wedded to Miss Hilda M. Bond, daughter of And. R. and Sophia P. Bond. He has had one child, a daughter, who died in infancy.

ERIK PETER STRANDBERG

was born March 10, 1860, in Strömsnäs, Stugun parish, Jämtland, Sweden. His mother Anna Nilsdotter was of Finnish descent. His father was Erick Mårtenson, a wealthy peasant who, however, by the time his son had grown to



ERIK PETER STRANDBERG

manhood, had lost his property through evil fortune.

At the age of eighteen Strandberg went to Sundsvall, where he learned the joiner's trade. After two years he returned to Stugun where he and a partner made fur-

niture for the parish. In 1882 he left for America and became a foreman in a lumber yard at Oak Park, Minn. During 1884-1885 he was in St. Cloud, removing thence to Joliet, Ill., where he became a building contractor. The following year Mr. Strandberg was attracted to the great metropolis of the West, where he worked for several contractors. At Christmas he visited his old home, where he was married to Ingrid Isakson, his heart's choice. With her he returned to Chicago in the spring of 1887. Mrs. Strandberg died within the year. After two years Mr. Strandberg was remarried, his second wife being Hilma Anderson. They have had six children, of whom two boys and a girl still live.

Mr. Strandberg's building operations are conducted on a very large scale. A few of the buildings he has erected are the Chicago Orphans' Asylum; Reed Memorial Library and Chapel; Smith Hall at Lake Forest University; a number of railway stations, and splendid residences for Messrs. Born and Kurzberger, Simon Mandel, Fred T. Haskell, Noble B. Judah, Wm. Dickinson, and Mrs. Wm. Hoyt. Mr. Strandberg's business was incorporated in 1902 under the name and style of E. P. Strandberg Co., he being president and treasurer. He has the controlling interest of Anderson and Lundgren Cut Stone Co. and is a director of the concern. Mr. Strandberg has been vice president of Scandia Life Insurance Co., director of the Swedish Baptist Mutual Aid Association and president of the Chicago Cemetery Association which owns the new Swedish Oak Hill Cemetery.

The family residence is at 3330 Indiana Avenue.

CHARLES WARREN NELSON,

florist, was born at Strö, Skåne, Sweden, Feb. 26, 1871, his parents



CHARLES WARREN NELSON

being Nils Nilson and Karin Ohlson. His father died in the old country Dec. 19, 1905.

Coming to the United States in 1887, he settled in Chicago, where his first years where spent in learning the different branches of the floral business and also, at the same time, pursuing the business college course offered by the Young Men's Christian Association. In 1894 Mr. Nelson engaged in the floral business at 1217 Milwaukee avenue, where he has built up a large trade.

Mr. Nelson is a director of the Wicker Park Safe Deposit and Trust Company. He holds membership in the following fraternities, lodges and clubs: Cleveland Lodge No. 211, A. F. and A. M.; Wicker Park Lodge No. 281, and Victory Encampment, I. O. O. F.; Orion Council No. 11, Royal League; Austin Council No. 50, North American Union; Svithiod Lodge No. 1, I. O. S., and the Svithiod Singing Club.

ANDREW SANDEGREN

was born in Halmstad, Halland, Sweden, June 25, 1867. His



ANDREW SANDEGREN

father was a school teacher who remained in active service until he died at the age of 83 years. Andrew attended the Carolinian Cathedral School at Lund. After leaving this institution he took private lessons in technology. In 1885 he became assistant in the city architect's office in Halmstad. At times he was assistant to Chief Engineer Carl Stendahl of the Halmstad—Nässjö Railway and to Captain Tengman, surveyor for the Central Halland Railway. In 1887 he received a commission to make a complete map of the Central Halland Railway for the government. After the completion of this work he went to the United States in the spring of 1888. He had several years' experience in some of the most prominent architects' offices in New York, Boston and Chicago.

In 1893, the World's Fair year, he opened his own office in Chicago. He is now at 1731 First National Bank Building. Mr. Sandegren makes a specialty of high grade work and has erected churches, hospitals, hotels and many of the handsomest apartment buildings in Chicago. He is a member of the Chicago Architectural Club, Chicago Architects' Business Association, the New Illinois Athletic Club, the Swedish Glee Club, the Svithiod Singing Club and the Scandinavian Engineers' Society. Mr. Sandegren resides at Lexington Hotel, 2135 Michigan ave., Chicago.

AUGUST H. SKOGLUND

was born in the city of Örebro, Sweden, March 3, 1871. After having finished his common school education, he left for America in the summer of 1889. Coming to Chicago he began working in the building trades and after a few years established himself as a building contractor. Now he is at the head of A. H. Skoglund &

Co., cut stone contractors in Argyle.

Mr. Skoglund is a member of the Swedish Methodist denomination and was one of the organizers of the Humboldt Park



AUGUST H. SKOGLUND

M. E. Church, which he has served as trustee for a period of ten years.

Mr. Skoglund has been married eleven years and has five children. He resides at 2917 North Paulina st.

CARL ANDERSON

was born in Warberg, Sweden, Aug. 8, 1851. He came to this country in 1869 and was engaged for some time in railroad work. He learned his trade, that of machinist, in Chicago and has continued in this line of work for thirty-four years. Mr. Anderson is president of the Carl Anderson Co., which conducts a general machine shop at 19 Huron st., Chicago. The firm manufactures and repairs all kinds of machinery. It is the sole manufacturer of the "Gus" gas and gasoline engines.

Mr. Anderson married Miss Anna Dahlgren of Gotland, Sweden, Oct. 1, 1872. They had five children born to them, three sons and one daughter living. Two of the sons are in their father's employ and one is a clerk in the First National Bank of Chicago. Mr. Anderson's residence is a two story



CARL ANDERSON

brick building, situated at Hamilton and Wilson aves.

ALEXANDER ANDERSON

was born in Åsheda, Småland, Sweden, Dec. 11, 1863, and came to America in 1881. He has since resided almost continuously in Chicago. Soon after his arrival to the city he secured employment in a shoe factory. From this position he has steadily risen until he is now foreman for Selz, Schwab & Co., shoe manufacturers,

having charge of the bottoming and finishing room with about 250 employes under his supervision.



ALEXANDER ANDERSON

Previously he held a position as foreman with the Schwab Bros. Shoe Mfg. Co.

Mr. Anderson has long been prominent in political and fraternal organizations. He has been a delegate to several political conventions, president of the Third Ward Democratic Club, and held several offices in the Swedish Democratic National Association. He is also a member of the orders of Odd Fellows, Foresters, Vikings, and Columbian Knights.

WILHELM C. BLOOMQUIST.

Rev. Wilhelm Claudius Bloomquist, minister of the Swedish Methodist Episcopal church, was born in Ethelhem, on the island of Gotland, Sweden, Nov. 2, 1865. His father was a contractor and builder who moved from Småland to Gotland and built the Visby High School. In the family were eight boys and three girls. To better his condition the father emigrated with his family to the United States and arrived Sept. 29, 1880, settling in Jamestown, N. Y. For a number of years Mr. Bloomquist was employed as a clerk in Jamestown. He was Sunday school superintendent and president of the Young People's Society of the Swedish M. E. Church. Later he became a com-



WILHELM C. BLOOMQUIST

mercial traveler. In 1893 he entered the Theological Seminary of Northwestern University, was graduated with honors in 1896 and was ordained as clergyman of the Swedish Methodist Episcopal Church. The Rev. Mr. Bloomquist has served a congregation in Jefferson Park two years and the congregation in Highland Park one year, was pastor of the church in Waukegan, Ill., for two years and of the

Fourth Swedish M. E. Church eight years. In 1896 the Rev. Mr. Bloomquist was married to Miss Judith M. Anderson, a daughter of the Rev. Alfred Anderson of Chicago.

AXEL E. OLSSON

was born April 17, 1857, in Blekinge, Sweden. In 1870 he went to Stockholm where he was apprenticed to a woodcarver. In the meantime he attended the manual training school for several seasons and then the Academy of Liberal Arts, where he was awarded several prizes. After working as carver and modeler, he finally opened his own shop. Although succeeding fairly well, he decided to go abroad. In 1881 he settled in Boston, doing considerable decorative art work in the East, among which may be mentioned the interior plastic decorations for The Breakers, Cornelius Vanderbilt's villa at Newport. One of these was a large relief, entitled the "Triumph of Bacchus."



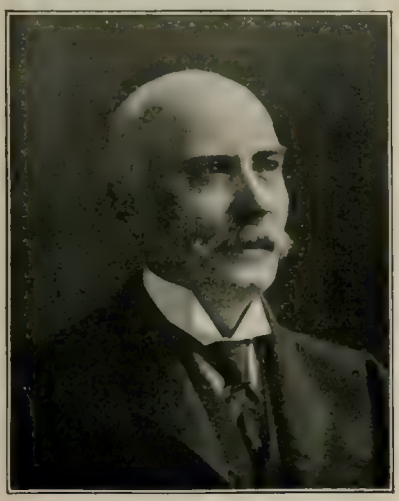
AXEL E. OLSSON

Two of Mr. Olsson's reliefs, "Spring" and "Autumn," were exhibited and sold in Boston. The year 1885 he spent in New York and in 1889 he traveled in Europe. Mr. Olsson returned to Boston where he won prizes for several competitive designs. He labored for months on models for the Machinery Hall, the Live Stock Building entrance and the Obelisk at the Columbian Exposition. The year 1892 he spent on the exposition grounds, executing these models full size. Among other sculptural decorations in Chicago done by Mr. Olsson are, the plastic representation of a football scrimmage, in the Chicago Athletic Association clubhouse and the bronze fountain in the Public Library.

Mr. Olsson modeled the silver cover of an address to King Oscar of Sweden, from Swedish-Americans in Chicago, on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of his accession to the throne, and also carved the cover of an address to the Queen from Swedish-American women. A number of public and private buildings in all parts of the country have been decorated with sculpture and reliefs designed by him. Among the places where Mr. Olsson's work may be seen are: U. S. post office building, Del Puento, Colo.; Normal School, De Kalb, Ill., Court house, Fort Wayne, Ind.; Edison Electrical Building, Chicago; State

Historical Society Library, Madison, Wis.; Carnegie Library, Muncie, Ind. Of late years Mr. Olsson has also paid some attention to art furniture designing, poster work and cartooning.

ERNEST OSCAR WATTMAN was born in Upsala, Sweden, March 2, 1847. In June, 1869,



ERNEST OSCAR WATTMAN

he came to Chicago, and worked here at different trades until 1894, when he established a grill work and general wood working shop.

Mr. Wattman is a member of Society Vega, treasurer of the First Swedish Lodge I. O. O. F., and is a trustee and member of the Board of Directors of the Swedish Old People's Home at Park Ridge, Ill.

JOHN LORENTZ was born in the parish of Mjölby, province of Östergötland, Sweden, April 4, 1845. Having finished public school, he was apprenticed to a country tailor at the age of



JOHN LORENTZ

fourteen. At eighteen he left home for the city of Linköping, where he learned the trade thoroughly and became a journeyman tailor. Thereafter he emigrated to America, in 1868, and came to Chicago, where he worked at his trade. In 1870 he left Chicago and went to New York City, where he was connected with some of the best tailoring establishments. Returning to Chicago in 1871, he married Miss Sophia Carolina Anderson, of Tyllinge, Kalmar län, Sweden, the issue being seven children, of whom three girls and three boys are still living.

In his earlier days Mr. Lorentz was identified with the Tailors' Union of Chicago, which he has served as financial secretary and as president.

In 1879 he left Chicago and accepted a position as cutter at

Mazomanie, Dane co., Wis., where he remained for eight years, returning to Chicago in the spring of 1887, where he worked as cutter for another ten years. In 1897 he started in business for himself, locating at 175 Dearborn st. He has had good success, having, while working as a cutter, made the acquaintance of a number of Chicago's best business men.

Mr. Lorentz was instrumental in organizing the Cutters' Society of Chicago and was elected first vice-president and later on president of the society, resigning that office in 1890. He is also identified with the I. O. O. F., in which order he has held prominent positions, including the office of secretary and treasurer of the Odd Fellows Board of Relief of Chicago.

ALFRED JANSSON

was born in the province of Vermland, Sweden, in 1863. He first studied arts and crafts in the technological institutes of Stockholm and Christiania. Later on, he attended the art academies of Stockholm and Paris, remaining two years in the latter place.

In 1889, Mr. Jansson left Paris, and the same year came over to America, making Chicago his place of residence from that time. After the usual struggle for recognition common to artists, he has finally become known as a painter of good landscapes, choosing his subjects from the surroundings of Chicago and painting them with a gentle and true hand.

His pictures have been seen annually at exhibitions in Chicago, Philadelphia, St. Louis, Denver,



ALFRED JANSSON

and other places. His picture, "Winter Approaching," in the Chicago local exhibition, 1902, was bought by the Klio Association.

Mr. Jansson is a member of the Arts Club of Chicago, the Palette and Chisel Club, and the Industrial Art League.

CHARLES E. HALLSTROM,

who was born in Jönköping, Sweden, Jan. 22, 1864, came to Chicago as a boy of four, in 1868. He became a professional base-ball player in 1882, and was well known in sporting circles all over the country as the Swedish Wonder. Two years later he started in the tailoring business with his brother, in which trade he is still engaged.

A few years ago, he was nominated on the Republican ticket for West town collector, and ran



CHARLES E. HALLSTROM

12,000 votes ahead of his ticket. In 1899, Mr. Hallstrom was elected to the city council of Chicago, from the Fifteenth Ward. He is a director of a large oil company in Indiana.

Mr. Hallstrom was married in 1888 to Miss Margaret Burns, and one son has been born to the couple.

ERIC PHILIP SWAN

was born in Chariton, Iowa, Feb. 27, 1874. He is a son of O. J. Swan, who is a Methodist minister. Mr. Swan graduated in 1896 from the Swedish M. E. Theological Seminary of Evanston, Ill., and in 1892 from the Garrett Biblical Institute of the same city. He is a minister of the gospel in the Methodist Episcopal Church, laboring in the Western Swedish Conference until 1900, and in the Central Conference from that time on. At present he is pastor of



ERIC PHILIP SWAN

the Bethany Swedish M. E. Church of Chicago.

JOHN SUNDQUIST

was born Nov. 20, 1866, at Loka, Vestmanland, Sweden. The first twenty years of his life were spent in the land of his nativity, but in November, 1886, he emigrated and came to Stambough, Mich., where he stayed until August the following year, when he removed to Chicago. There he commenced to work at the tailor's trade, and established himself in business.

In 1891 Mr. Sundquist married Miss Christina Håkanson, from Råda parish, Vermland, Sweden. They have had three children, one of whom survives.

In 1901 Mr. Sundquist sold out his business and in company with his family made a visit to the old country. In the fall of the

same year he returned to Chicago, however, and opened a tailoring establishment at 796 Southport



JOHN SUNDQUIST

ave., where he employed from 25 to 30 persons. More recently he located at Waveland ave. and N. Halsted st., which is his present business address.

AXEL PETERSON

was born in the city of Örebro, Sweden, March, 12, 1869. A public school education was obtained in his native city. He emigrated in 1888 and came at once to Chicago. During the day he worked at his trade, that of carpenter, and in the evening attended the Manual Training Evening School. Since 1891 he has been in business as carpenter and builder, and is a member of the Carpenters' and Builders' Association. Mr. Peterson was married in 1894, to Hulda Gustafson. Three children have been born to them. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson belong to the Swed-



AXEL PETERSON

ish Mission Church in Lake View and reside at 1617 Addison st.

CHARLES A. STRANDEL

was born in the Swedish province of Vermland, Dec. 31, 1866. At the age of twenty he emigrated to America, arriving in March, 1887. For about a year he resided in Grand Rapids, Mich., and from there came to Chicago.

Mr. Strandel is one of the well known architects of Chicago and, during the last few years, has erected a number of the finest apartment buildings in the city, also a number of private residences and business blocks.

He is a member of Svithiod Lodge No. 1, I. O. S., and of Svithiod Singing Club of Chicago. The concert hall, which has been added to its clubhouse, was erected by him and is one of many

examples of Mr. Strandel's skill as an architect. He is an active



CHARLES A. STRANDEL

and well known member of the Chicago Architects' Association.

CARL FERDINAND KLAUS

was born in Stockholm, Sweden, May 23, 1866. He was reared in his native city, attending common school until ten years of age and subsequently for five years pursuing higher studies in the so-called "German School." At fifteen he was apprenticed to a merchant but finding the occupation uncongenial after two years he went to sea. After a year of seafaring life he came to America, settling in New York state. He studied at Elmira Academy, graduating in 1887. Thereupon he entered the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia College, New York City, from which institution he received the degree of M. D. in 1890. For some time he acted as interne at St Mary's Hospital in Brooklyn, N. Y., and thereafter served as assistant physician at the County Hospital of Milwaukee, Wis. In 1891 he came to Chicago, where he has since resided.

Dr. Klaus was married to Miss Agda Roberg of Stockholm, Aug.



CARL FERDINAND KLAUS

7, 1901. They have a son, Rolf Ferdinand, born July 21, 1902.

CHARLES G. SETTERGREN

was born in Åmmeberg, Nerike, Sweden, Jan. 8, 1860. He came to America in 1869 with his parents, who first went to Minneapolis. Three years later, in 1872, young Settergren removed to Chicago. After graduating trom the Chicago public schools in 1877, he entered the employ of the large wholesale groceryhouse of Reid, Murdoch & Co., occupying various positions. For the last 17 years he has been a traveling salesman for this house, and at the

present time holds a position in the very front rank among the



CHARLES G. SETTERGREN

salesmen of this immense concern. Mr. Settergren can boast of an unbroken record of twenty-nine years of faithful service with the same establishment.

NELS GUNNAR EDWARD BOBERG

was born in the city of Karlskrona, Sweden, Sept. 15, 1878. After completing the course in the public schools, he studied at the Karlskrona collegiate school. Thereafter he emigrated in the spring of 1892, destined for Chicago, where he has since lived.

Mr. Boberg has been connected in various capacities with the Swedish newspapers of Chicago. From errand boy on *Svenska Kuriren*, he advanced by successive steps to bookkeeper, clerk and advertising man on *Hemlandet*. From that paper he went over to *Svenska Nyheter* as its advertising manager, a position he still retains



NELS GUNNAR EDWARD BOBERG

after the consolidation of *Svenska Tribunen* with that paper.

Mr. Boberg is a member of the order of Odd Fellows.

GUSTAVUS ANDERSON

was born Nov. 3, 1847, in Långsjögle, Bellö parish, Småland, Sweden. At the age of twelve years, he became an apprentice in the bindery of F. Beck, of Stockholm, official bookbinder to the Royal Court of Sweden. In 1867, his apprenticeship completed, he received from the Trades' Association of Stockholm a silver medal for skill and competence in his craft. The following year he left for America, and came to Chicago. Mr. Anderson early affiliated with the old Swedish M. E. Church in Illinois st. and promoted the general interests of the church in Chicago. He was concerned with the

welfare of his countrymen and assisted many to secure situations. He worked in some of the largest



GUSTAVUS ANDERSON

binderies in this city and New York perfecting himself in his trade. In 1880 he started a bindery of his own, which he operated until 1883, when he sold it and went out west for a few months. Returning to Chicago, he engaged in the real estate business, and has dealt successfully in realty ever since. His business office is in the Stock Exchange Building.

Mr. Anderson is largely interested in the Chicago Brazilian Diamond Co. which owns gold and diamond fields in Diamantina, Brazil.

He was a director of the Linné Monument Association and one of its most energetic members.

He early allied himself with the Republican party, and for the last 17 years has been an active worker in the 26th ward Republican club.

Mr. Anderson is a bachelor, and lives with his widowed sister at 3140 North Lincoln street, Summerdale.

ERIC GUSTAF STRÖM

was born Feb. 10, 1847, at Öfverums Bruk, Småland, Sweden. After his elementary studies were finished, he attended the Vestervik high school for five years. He emigrated from Sweden in 1869 and came at once to Chicago, where he obtained employment as machinist. Since 1877 he has been employed by Greenlee Bros. &



ERIC GUSTAF STRÖM

Co., manufacturers of special woodworking machines.

Mr. Ström was married in 1874, to Miss M. C. Nylander, with whom he has three daughters. The family lives at 10130 Butler st. Mr. Ström belongs to the United Workmen.

JOHN GÖSTA BERGQUIST

was born in Vermland, Sweden, on the 18th day of May, 1869,



JOHN GÖSTA BERGQUIST

came to the United States in 1888 and has since lived in Chicago. He has a good education obtained at various schools, but is not a graduate of any institution. Mr. Bergquist is superintendent of the cement department of the Illinois Steel Co. He is a member of the Union Club, Western Society of Engineers, and Scandinavian Technical Society.

CARL F. ANDERSON

was born in Småland, Sweden, Jan. 17, 1866. When he was 3 years old his parents moved to the city of Halmstad, where he acquired a fair education and learned the machinist's trade. At the age of twenty he emigrated to the United States. He was without friends or money but soon secured work with a railroad company in whose employ he advanced to the position of locomotive engineer. This, however, was not the goal of his ambition. Seeing a greater opportunity in his former occupation, he secured employment with the Dexter Folder Co., of New York, as machinist. Here he advanced to foreman and finally superintendent and a member of the firm. The Dexter Folder Co. manufactures paper folders and paper feeders. This position determined Mr. Anderson's future field. In 1896 he started a machine shop in Chicago and is now sole owner of C. F. Anderson & Co's Machine Works, at 394-398 S. Clark st. He has invented several machines



CARL F. ANDERSON

for printers' and bookbinders' use which are manufactured at this plant. Among them are the well known Anderson bundling presses for bundling and smashing folded sheets, collated books, pamphlets, etc., and the Anderson high-speed

folding machine which is capable of folding 6,000 sheets an hour, nearly double the capacity of any other folding machine on the market.

Mr. Anderson was married in 1890 to Miss Carrie Erickson, of Madrid, Iowa, with whom he has three children.

JOHN H. HOLMGREN

was born in Mariestad, Sweden, in 1858. He learned the shoe-



JOHN H. HOLMGREN

maker's trade in his native country and became master shoemaker. He left Sweden in 1881, coming to Chicago. Ten years later he started a boot and shoe store at 1738 N. Clark st., which he has been operating successfully ever since.

Mr. Holmgren in 1885 married Miss Minnie Svensson. They have had ten children, of whom six have died, two boys and two girls still surviving.

Mr. Holmgren is a member of the Three Links Lodge of the order of the Odd Fellows, the Royal League, and the Select Knights of America.

ALFRED HUGHMARK

was born in Frändefors parish, Dalsland, in Aug. 1867. He was



ALFRED HUGHMARK

orphaned at the age of two. For a year no permanent home could be found for the young boy until an old childless couple took pity on the waif and cared for him. At the age of ten he put a few articles of clothing and some school books in a pillow case and with this and 25 öre in money left the foster-parents to battle for existence. Passage was obtained on a steamer from Vänersborg to Göteborg, where employment was secured as errand boy in several places before an opportunity was offered for something more promising. All this time a small, dark, unfurnished room was rented back

of a grocery in exchange for services at night and material for one meal a day cooked over an oil lamp stove. Later he was apprenticed in the bookbinding trade where he was given the opportunity to attend night-school. Three nights a week were devoted to night-school and three to private language courses. Sundays he taught a club of six apprentices English, grammar and arithmetic, thus earning enough to pay for his own tuition. At the age of eighteen he became a journeyman, and, determined to better equip himself by an extended tour to foreign countries, he visited in turn Bergen, Helsingfors, Copenhagen, Hamburg and London, obtaining work with more or less difficulty in each place. From London he shipped for three years as a sailor and, although the full term was not served out, enough hardship was experienced to last him for a long time. He came to the United States through Mexico with the following assets: a pair of oilskins, an English shilling and abundance of courage. He went from the South to the West, thence to the East. In 1896 he was given a branch plant to manage in Frankfort, Ky., for the *Louisville Courier-Journal*, then made foreman of the bindery in Louisville, at their home plant. After a year he was engaged by the Weed-Parsons Co. in Albany, N. Y. Since 1899 he has been with the Henry O. Shepard Co., at first as foreman of the binding department and now as superintendent of the printing and binding departments. Mr. Hughmark contributes articles to the *American Paper Journal*, *Southern Magazine* and the *Inland Printer*, and is editor of the American section of "Deutsches Ingenieurs Gesellschafts Lexicon." He has been in the Illinois Corps of Engineers, I. N. G., and in the U. S. Revenue Service and is a member of the Hamilton Club, St. Bernard Commandery, Knights Templars (32 degree) Scottish Rite Masons, Medinah Temple, Mystic Shrine, and Royal League. Mr. Hughmark was married Oct. 30, 1897, to Miss Helen M. Albaugh, born June 14, 1870, a daughter of Capt. Geo. C. and Ella McKay Albaugh of Louisville, Kentucky.

ALBERT SCHONBECK

was born Feb. 27, 1857. His parents were John M. and Johanna



ALBERT SCHONBECK

B. Schonbeck. He early became interested in the real estate busi-

ness. It was in 1873, when he was only 16 years of age that he first came in contact with the vocation that was to become his life work. Since then he has steadily continued in that line with varying experiences and a great measure of success. The knowledge and experience thus acquired later came to be of great value to him when he was chosen member, and then president, of the Board of Local Improvements of the city of Chicago.

Mr. Schonbeck is married since Aug. 27, 1877, to Miss Mollie Thieleman Fitz-Patrick, who is a grandchild of Col. Christian Thieleman of the 16th Illinois Cavalry. They have two children, Lloyd and Florence Olivia.

ANDREW LANDGREN

was born Jan. 7, 1864, in Landa, Sweden. After having been educated in his native district he left the old country at the age of sixteen, coming to the United States in 1880. Chicago was his destination and here he was variously occupied up to 1886 when he secured employment in the Braun and Fitts butterine factory. For the last thirteen years he has been assistant superintendent in the factory. He is now secretary of the Geo. P. Braun Co.



ANDREW LANDGREN

Mr. Landgren has been a member of the board of trustees of the Immanuel Swedish Lutheran Church and later was elected to a similar office in the Messiah English Lutheran Church.

Mr. Landgren was married on Jan. 24, 1884, to Clara A. Larson of Chicago. They are blessed with three sons and three daughters.

CHARLES AXELL

was born in Kyrkefalla parish, Kåkind, Vestergötland, Sweden, Nov. 27, 1850. He emigrated to this country in 1870. Since that



CHARLES AXELL

time he has followed the painter's trade. Mr. Axell contracts for work in Chicago and its northern suburbs. His shop is in Chicago. He resides in Winnetka, Illinois. Mrs. Axell, née Mathilda Jonson, was born in Bexheda parish, Småland, Sweden. Mr. and Mrs. Axell have had eight children, of whom four sons are still living. They are Charles O., John Erik, Alexander H. and Harry B. Axell.

ALBERT OLIVER

was born June 10, 1875, near Göteborg. His parents moved to



ALBERT OLIVER

the metropolis when he was five years old and he received his early education in the public schools. After having studied drawing in the Chalmers Technical School, he emigrated in 1890. He first settled in Rockford and later in Chicago. The young man completed a general course in the evening high schools and also took a special course in drawing with the International Correspondence Schools of Scranton, Pa. Mr. Oliver learned the cabinetmaker's trade and became foreman in Aug. Jahn's establishment. In 1901 he went in business with Ernst Lindstrom. They make store and office fixtures and special cabinet work. Their shops are at 192-200 N. Union st.

Mr. Oliver is a Lutheran and is a member of the Odd Fellows and the I. O. T.

NILS REIHMER

was born in Efveröd, Skåne, Sweden, Nov. 23, 1861. He emigrated to America at the age of nineteen years, and afterwards traveled extensively as a journeyman tailor, visiting the principal cities of the United States. About twenty years ago he began work as cutter and has been engaged in that line



NILS REIHMER

by leading merchant tailors of Chicago.

Mr. Reihmer was married in 1891 to Miss Matilda Johnson, with whom he has two sons.

The family lives at 1184 W. North ave.

GUSTAF RUDELIUS

was born in Lund, Skåne, Sweden, in 1861. He early learned the



GUSTAF RUDELIUS

trade of cutler and grinder under the guidance of his father, who is a manufacturer of cutlery and surgical instruments in Lund. In 1881 young Rudelius went to America and settled in Chicago, where he worked as grinder for about three years. In 1883 he established himself in the retail cutlery and grinding business at 172–174 South Clark st. Meeting with business success, he has accumulated considerable property, and owns a cozy residence at 935 Perry ave., Lake View, where he lives.

Mr. Rudelius in 1887 married Miss Axeline Ackerman, and their union has been blessed with one daughter.

SAMUEL OLOF OLIN

was born in Chicago Aug. 24, 1867. He was educated in the public schools, and after graduating from the Franklin School in 1883, he entered the employ of Peterson & Bay, bankers. In 1895, when the banking business of Peterson & Bay was incorporated as the Western State Bank, he became assistant cashier. Mr. Olin held this position until Feb. 15, 1901, when he severed his connection with the bank and engaged in the real estate and mortgage loan business. On Sept. 15, 1905, Mr. Charles H. Brattstrom became associated with him in the real estate and loan business under the firm name of Brattstrom & Olin, which is the present name af the firm.



SAMUEL OLOF OLIN

Mr. Olin was united in marriage Jan. 28, 1891, to May I. Irwin,

of Chicago. To them were born Irene Balfour in 1892, Irwin Blaine in 1895, and Gertrude May in 1902.

The family resides at 1473 N. Francisco ave., and attends the Episcopal Church of the Advent. Mr. Olin is treasurer of the church.

Mr. Olin is the son of Sven O. Olin, who is one of Chicago's oldest Swedish settlers, having come here in 1857. Mr. Olin, senior, was a tailor, and for many years took an active part in public affairs in the Swedish colony on the north side. He retired from business several years ago. His wife, Anne S., née Jacobsen, died Feb. 23, 1906.

CHARLES T. A. ANDERSON

was born near Kalmar, Sweden, Jan. 4, 1872. His father, Carl



CHARLES T. A. ANDERSON

Olof Anderson, who was a tailor by trade, embarked for America, with his wife and five children, in 1875, and settled in Chicago, where he died April 30, 1877. His mother, Matilda Sophia, née Svenson, is still living. Like the other children, Charles was early obliged to earn his own bread, but his education was not neglected. He attended the public schools, and also the Swedish parochial school. He attended the the Y. M. C. A. evening school and the Soper School of Oratory and Elocution. In 1884 he entered the employ of Marshall Field & Co. In 1889 he was engaged by Dunlap Smith & Co., real estate, and in 1898 branched out for himself in the same business, in which he has been successfully engaged ever since. His office is at 167 Dearborn st.

Mr. Anderson has always been very active in religious, social and political movements. For eight years he has been deacon and financial secretary of the Holy Trinity English Lutheran Church. He is treasurer of the Home Mission Board of the Lutheran Chicago Synod, and has been a delegate to the annual conventions of the General Council of the Lutheran Church and of the Luther League of America and of Illinois, in which he has held important offices and is at present president of the Luther League of Illinois. He is also one of the trustees of the Chicago Synod.

Mr. Anderson is a member of the Columbian Knights, and the Fraternal Tribunes, in which organizations he has been honored with responsible offices. He is now

chairman of the finance committee of the Grand Lodge of the Order of Columbian Knights and Past President of Pinzon Lodge No. 1 of that order, and secretary of the Fraternal Tribunes No. 18.

Some years ago he organized the Northwestern Improvement Club of the 27th and 28th wards, and served as its secretary for three years. He is now secretary of the Republican club of the 21st precinct, 26th ward.

In 1897 Mr. Anderson married Miss Clara Kaehler, daughter of the Rev. F. C. Kaehler, formerly pastor of the Wicker Park Lutheran Church, and their union has been blessed with one daughter and two sons.

ADOLF F. ANDERSON

was born in Skaraborg län, Sweden, Nov. 5, 1867. He was reared



ADOLF F. ANDERSON

in his native place whose schools he attended. In 1887, at the age of twenty, he emigrated to this country and settled in Chicago where he has resided continuously. Mr. Anderson is a manufacturer of builders' iron material, at 5844 Loomis st. His home is at 5946 Carpenter st.

He belongs to the Baptist Church and is a trustee and Sunday school superintendent.

ANTON WILHELM JOHANSON,

jeweler and watchmaker, was born at Tumba, in Grödinge parish,



ANTON WILHELM JOHANSON

near Stockholm, March 5, 1861. After having attended the public school he learned the watchmaker's trade from F. W. Tornberg, in Stockholm. During this period he also studied at the Sloyd School in the Swedish capital. On becoming a journeyman in his trade he emigrated to America in May, 1882, and worked for several

months at his trade in Jersey City. Leaving for Chicago, he obtained a place with C. D. Peacock, where he remained for one and a half years. His reputation as a fine mechanic being well established by this time, he was offered a position as foreman in a watch factory at Baraboo, Wis. This position he retained until 1886, when he returned to Chicago, where he was for five years head watchmaker for C. H. Knights and Co. We next find him affiliated with the wholesale firm of M. S. Fleishman and Co. In 1895 Mr. Johanson opened a retail jewelry store at 270 Wells st. where he has, by intelligence and fair dealing, built up a splendid business.

Mr. Johanson is a member of the American Horological Society and has been its vice president. He was in 1892 appointed a judge of awards, being the only Swedish-American called to this position. The presidency of the Swedish Watchmaker's Society of Chicago has twice been conferred on Mr. Johanson. He belongs to Lodge No. 1, I.O. S., Knights of the Maccabees, and has been president of the Linné Club, a Swedish social organization. Mr. Johanson in 1889 was married to Miss Ebba Wedin, from Motala, Sweden.

JOHN AUGUST CARLSTEIN, physician and surgeon, was born in Vestergötland, Sweden, Dec. 26, 1842. His father was Anders Carlstein, a landed proprietor, who died in 1862. His mother, née Eva Toll, died in 1884. Having attended the Skara collegiate school, he took a course in medi-



JOHN AUGUST CARLSTEIN

cine and another in military science. Mr. Carlstein enlisted in the Danish war of 1864, as a non-commissioned officer, and earned honorable promotion, but left for America shortly after, enlisting at once in the Union army. Under General Phil. Sheridan he fought through the Shenandoah campaign. Wounded in the leg, he was honorably discharged from the service Sept. 4, 1865, and pensioned by the government. In a casual meeting with Gen. Sheridan, while he was stationed in Chicago in 1878, the general said to him: "I know your voice. Your name is Johnnie. You delivered dispatches to me in the battle of Five Forks." This was the beginning of a personal acquaintance and associations which lasted as long as the famous cavalry general remained in Chicago. In 1867 and subsequent

years Mr. Carlstein traveled extensively in the South and the middle West. In 1882 he graduated from the Chicago Homeopathic Medical College. From then until 1889 he served as surgeon for the Pine Lake Iron Co. and also government surgeon at Port Charlevoix, Mich. Dr. Carlstein then removed to Chicago, engaging in the general practice of medicine. When the German-American Medical College of Chicago was organized in 1893, Dr. Carlstein was elected professor of surgery and president of the college. This position he retained for four years. Smitten with the Alaska fever, he resigned in 1897 and left for Alaska as surgeon of the Yukon Valley Prospecting and Mining Co. He traveled overland by way of Edmonton through the Northwest Territory —an adventurous trip of about 3,000 miles. Dr. Carlstein returned to Chicago in Sept., 1900, and resumed his medical practice here. His office and residence is at 1248 E. Ravenswood Park, Ravenswood.

Dr. Carlstein was married in Chicago Dec. 9, 1871, to Olivia Bergström. She is a daughter of J. Bergström of Sundsvall, Sweden, and was born Sept. 2, 1850.

Dr. Carlstein is a member of the Masonic order, National Union, Geo. H. Thomas Post, G. A. R., the Chicago Medical Society and the American Medical Society. He is a member of the Congregational Church.

NELS NELSON

was born in Villands Vånga, Skåne, Sweden, Aug. 8, 1862, and came to America in the fall of



NELS NELSON

1882. He secured a position as watchmaker with S. A. Dale, 86 N. Clark st., Chicago, and was later connected with the firm of Dale Bros., until March, 1894, when he started in business for himself, and is now located at 137 Oak st. A branch store has been established at 532 Wilson ave., Ravenswood.

Mr. Nelson takes considerable interest in fraternal organizations. He is a member of King Oscar Lodge, 855, A. F. and A. M., also of the First Swedish Lodge, 479, I. O. O. F., and No. 1 of the Independent Order of Svithiod. He is also a member of the Swedish Watchmakers' Society of Chicago, which he helped to organize in 1892.

Mr. Nelson in 1884 married Miss

Amanda C. Peterson, and they have one daughter, Alice, born Sept. 20, 1885.

N. HJALMAR HULTIN

was born Sept. 4, 1869, in Onsala, Halland, Sweden, the son of Peter Anton Hultin, a sailor, and



N. HJALMAR HULTIN

Anna Carolina Anderson. He emigrated with his parents in 1872 to the United States and received a common school education in Chicago. In this city he was engaged in the clothing trade as cutter for a number of years and then went into partnership with G. Segersten in the undertaking business, conducting it for eight years. Having dissolved the partnership, he engaged in the undertaking and livery business at 1663 N. Clark st. where his establishment is still located. Mr. Hultin served as supervisor of Lake View for two terms, 1897-98, having been elected on the Republican ticket. June 28, 1899, he was united in marriage to Ella, daughter of Enoch and Mina Nelson.

JOHN EMANUEL SPANN

was born in Vingåker, Södermanland, Sweden, March 26, 1869. He emigrated to America in 1888, locating in Kansas City. In 1893 he moved to Chicago where he engaged in the tailoring business as a member of the firm of MacDonald & Spann. He subsequently established the firm of John E. Spann. Mr. Spann, has devoted much of his time to music and has been leader of the choir in First Swedish Baptist Church for many years. He is the director of the Swedish Baptist Jubilee



JOHN EMANUEL SPANN

Chorus and has on many occasions been the leader of large mixed choruses.

Mr. Spann was married to Miss Sigrid R. Anderson in 1900. They have a daughter, Laura Evelyn.

JOHN LUNDSTROM

was born April 11, 1860, in Ryssmo, Öland, Kalmar län, Sweden. He served in the Swedish navy



JOHN LUNDSTROM

from the time he was sixteen till he reached maturity. He landed in the United States May 2, 1882, and located in Chicago, where he now carries on the merchant tailoring business, with shop at 24–30 Hein place.

Mr. Lundstrom is a member of the Royal Arcanum.

In 1884 he was united in marriage to Mary Johanna Peterson, who was born Feb. 28, 1865, in Boda, Öggestorp parish, Småland, Sweden. Mr. and Mrs. Lundstrom have one son and two daughters. They live in their own home at 1309 N. Mozart st. and are members of the Immanuel Swedish Lutheran Church.

JOHN NELSON

was born Nov. 11, 1864, in Hallaryd, province of Småland, Sweden. He attended the "Fridhem" public high school in his native city in 1885-1886. Subsequently for two years he was a bookkeeper. He then was superintendent of a saw-mill until 1890 when he left Sweden. He came to Chicago where he has since resided except for a few months spent in Rockford, Ill. Mr. Nelson engaged in the metal plating business and in company with J. Roper he organized, in 1899, the Lake City Plating Works, located at 249 Wells st. Mr. Nelson belongs to Lodge



JOHN NELSON

No. 1., Independent Order of Vikings, in which he was recording secretary for three terms.

CHARLES E. TUNELIUS

was born in the city of Eskilstuna, Sweden, March 11, 1845. In 1851 he moved with his parents to the

province of Småland, and in 1856 to that of Östergötland. He learned the rudiments of the ma-



CHARLES E. TUNELIUS

chinist and steam engineering trades from his father, while the latter was chief engineer of the Åtvidaberg Copper Works. At the age of fifteen he left the parental roof to make his own living. He began by tending a steam engine, used to run ore crushing machinery. In the summer he traveled about the country running threshing machines. This continued for three years, except one summer, when he was sent to erect some mining machinery in Södermanland.

At the age of eighteen he obtained employment at Forsbacka Iron Works, in Gestrikland. Then he went to the Sandviken Steel Works and to Hofors and Kungsgården in the same province. He was there employed in various capacities, such as general machinist, roll turner and in erecting and running steamboat engines at Ljusne. In 1867 his father went to Chicago, where he was rejoined by the remainder of the family the year after.

With the exception of a year and a half spent in Canton, Ohio, Mr. Tunelius has since lived in Chicago. He was first employed as machinist in various shops. From 1877 until 1892 he was master mechanic with the National Malleable Casting Co. In 1892 he, in company with Mr. C. M. Hanson, started a machine shop in Chicago, which has since been in successful operation. He is also interested in other enterprises, such as the Chicago Machinery Manufacturing Co. and the Union Bank of Chicago. Mr. Tunelius' specialty is designing and building special and experimental machinery of every description. He has, during his busy career, invented several machines and appliances, some of which have been patented. Among these is the Tunelius automatic bottle washing machine, of which hundreds are in operation in breweries and bottling departments in the United States, Canada and several European and South American countries.

On Oct. 23, 1871, he married Miss E. M. Peterson, who is still his loving helpmate. Mr. and Mrs. Tunelius are the happy parents of two sons and a daughter, all grown.

Mr. Tunelius is a charter member of the Swedish Society Nordstjernan, an old member of the Royal Arcanum, also a member of the

Scandinavian Technical Society, and the Swedish Glee Club. He is a 32d degree Freemason.

JOHN WILHELM HJERTSTRÖM,

the pastor of the Second Swedish Baptist Church of Chicago, was



JOHN WILHELM HJERTSTRÖM

born in Stockholm, Sweden, Sept. 6, 1854. After graduating from the Bethel Seminary at Stockholm in 1881, he became pastor of a church at Westervik. Later he had charges in Nyköping and in Falun. In 1891 he emigrated to Worcester, Mass., and held the pastorate there for six years. Thereupon he accepted a call to the Fourth Swedish Church of Chicago, which he served for two years and a half. He then moved to Jamestown, N. Y., and took charge of the Swedish Baptist Church in that place until 1901, when he returned to Chicago, having been called to the Second Swedish Baptist Church of that city, with which he is still connected.

Mr. Hjertström has been married since 1882, his wife's maiden name being Cecilia Olivia Sjöstedt. They have nine children, Therese, Theodore, Amy, Ernest, Lizzie, Martin, Carrie, Lawrence and Roy.

F. OSCAR WEYDELL

was born in the city of Kalmar, Sweden, Nov. 5, 1863. When he was four years old, his parents moved to Ottenby, in the southern part of Öland, where his father was superintendent of a large farm. After graduating from the public school, the fourteen-year-old boy became interested in mechanical operations. He was especially encouraged by one of his father's friends, a young veterinary surgeon,



F. OSCAR WEYDELL

in whose laboratory and workshop he received a knowledge of the use of tools which later proved

of inestimable value. The opportunities for mechanical development, were, however, very limited in Ottenby, and since agricultural pursuits did not appeal to him, it became necessary to make plans for leaving the homestead. When he was sixteen years old he was seized with a desire to go to America. His father, who had intended to send him to a sloyd or technical school, reluctantly yielded, and in April, 1880, young Weydell started on his journey. A month later he came to Chicago and was employed as apprentice in a pattern shop. In the meantime he went to evening school and studied mechanical drawing. In his trade he made rapid progress, and within five years he was appointed foreman in one of the largest pattern shops in Chicago. This position was retained until 1897, when he established his own pattern shop at Clinton and Adams sts. He is conducting a successful business in foundry patterns, models, and in designing machinery.

At the age of 21 years Mr. Weydell was married to Anna Johnson of Chicago. The family residence is in Woodlawn, a pretty suburb of Chicago.

Mr. Weydell is a member of the Masonic fraternity and several other clubs and societies.

CHARLES G. HERST

was born in the city of Linköping, province of Östergötland, Sweden, Oct. 22, 1863. He received the education offered by the common school in his native place.



CHARLES G. HERST

He came to Chicago March 22, 1879, as a tailor. In 1886 he began his own business as manufacturing tailor at 144 Vedder st., and has since enjoyed a constantly growing trade. He belongs to the King Oscar Masonic Lodge, Odd Fellows Lodge No. 479, and to the Svea Society. He is an adherent of the Swedish Lutheran Church. In 1887 Mr. Herst was married to Olivia Newman, of Chicago. To them have been born two children, Theodore and Arthur.

CLEMENS EHNBORN

was born April 1, 1870, in the city of Kristianstad, Sweden. In 1882 his parents emigrated with their family to America. At the age of fifteen, young Ehnborn began to learn the general woodworker's trade. In 1897 he, together with John Skow, established

the concern of C. Ehnborn & Co., now styled Ehnborn Wood Turning and Manufacturing Co. Their



CLEMENS EHNBORN

plant is situated at 19–21 N. Jefferson st., where wood turning, bandsawing and cabinet work is done. A specialty is made of automatic lathe work, such as rope and spiral turning.

Mr. Ehnborn is a student of social and economic problems and has embraced the doctrines of socialism. He is a member of the order of Odd Fellows.

WILLIAM A. BLOMGREN

was born in Chicago June 23, 1858. After finishing the public schools, he took a course at Bryant & Stratton's Business College. Shortly after the Chicago fire he entered the employ of the Western Union Telegraph Co. He was a member of the Second Regiment, Illinois National Guards, from 1874 to 1876. Thereafter he joined the reorganized company of the Ellsworth Zouaves, and often traveled with this company, taking part in their prize and exhibition drills. The name of this company was afterwards changed to the Lackey Zouaves of Chicago, in honor of Captain Lackey. Mr. Blomgren remained with the company until 1880. In 1887 he entered the service of the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railroad Co., as a fireman, in which occupation he remained for a number of years, serving part of the time as engineer. During this period he lived chiefly in Elkhart, Ind., and Toledo, Ohio. In 1891 he returned



WILLIAM A. BLOMGREN

to Chicago and engaged in the photo-engraving business, forming a partnership with M. Lindblom for this purpose. Their place of business was then at the corner of Harrison and Dearborn sts. At present, Mr. Blomgren is at 726 Winona ave., engaged in the prep-

aration of stereopticon slides for illustrated lectures, and has among his customers some of the leading lecturers of the country.

Mr. Blomgren has held the office of Orator of Liberty Council of the Royal League. He is also a member of the Royal Arcanum.

JOHN A. JOHNSON

was born Jan. 26, 1857, at Brunabo, Karl Gustaf parish, Vester-



JOHN A. JOHNSON

götland, Sweden. In May, 1881, he emigrated to America and lived for some time in Braddock, Pa. Later he came to Chicago, where he has since resided. Mr. Johnson here secured employment with a manufacturer of wooden tanks, and continued in this trade with various firms until October, 1893. In company with Adolph A. Carlson and Andrew Johnson, he embarked in the manufacture of tanks under the firm name of Johnson, Carlson & Co. A year later Andrew Johnson retired from business. The remaining associates continued under the name of Johnson & Carlson. By a thorough knowledge of their specialty they have attained success in their business. The firm makes cisterns, vats, and troughs of every description. They occupy their own factory at 139–155 Eastman st.

CARL S. N. HALLBERG,

an authority on pharmaceutical science in the United States, was born Oct. 13, 1856, in Helsingborg Sweden, on the Sound, directly opposite the Danish city of Helsingör, with its ancient fort, in which was laid the scene of the story of Hamlet. Accompanying his older sister to school one day to defend her against "some bad boys," he liked the experience so well as to begin school when four



CARL S. N. HALLBERG

years of age. Continuing in a private school until nine years old,

he was admitted to the Gymnasie, where he continued his studies until removing with his parents to America in the spring of 1869. Settling at Altoona, Pa., his father was employed in the locomotive works of the Pennsylvania Railroad. On his mother's side the family had long been reputed for skill in setting broken limbs, one member of each generation handing down the art to a member of each succeeding generation. In the old mansion a great silver urn occupied the post of honor on festive occasions, a tribute from King Carl XIV Johan, for services performed. The grandfather was the prototype of "the concentrated inhabitant," comprising within himself all the important offices in the village, fifteen miles from the city, including village schoolmaster, watchmaker, gunsmith, and healer, preparing all his own remedies, the chief of which were salves of every possible hue and composition.

It was during his boyhood days in Sweden, while visiting in the village during the summer vacation, that young Hallberg was fully initiated into the healing art by assisting his grandfather at the operation of blood-letting, it being his duty to stand beside the victim and catch the stream of "claret" in a tinned bowl, as it issued from the lancet's wound. The young men and lassies paid regular annual visits to "the master," to be relieved from the effete blood that had accumulated during the winter months, the only medical treatment they indulged in. The old gentleman used the ointments mostly on his own wounds, received in the war with Napoleon.

During the vacations, young Hallberg would also assist in his father's factory.

These experiences, as well as the fact that his father was a technical chemist, determined him to engage in pharmacy, and he was apprenticed to Dr. S. M. Sellers, of Altoona, early in February, 1870. After four years' service, and his family having returned to Sweden, he decided to attend a college of pharmacy. A traveling salesman was finally discovered, who knew there was a college of pharmacy in Philadelphia, had actually seen the building, and who furnished the address. Arriving in Philadelphia early in October, in 1874, Hallberg obtained a situation with the wholesale drug house of M. K. Smith & Co., and soon after with E. B. Garrigues & Co., where, under the direction of Edwin M. Boring, a most thorough training and valuable experience was afforded.

Mr. Hallberg left Philadelphia for Chicago in the spring of 1877, having remained in the city after graduating in March, 1876, from the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy.

After two years of practice as clerk with C. F. Hartwig, of Chicago, he engaged in manufacturing pharmacy, associated with C. G. Wheeler. Retiring in 1885, he became associated with G. P. Engelhard in a postal system of in-

struction in pharmacy, of which institution he is the director.

During 1888 and 1889, Mr. Hallberg was associated with C. L. Feldkamp, in the practice of pharmacy in Chicago, the firm engaging in manufacturing pharmaceuticals, for which it was awarded the gold medal by the American Pharmaceutical Association in 1888.

First contributing to pharmaceutical journals in 1878, he became the editor of *The Druggist*, afterward *The Western Druggist*, in 1882, relinquishing editorial duties in 1890 to accept the position of professor of pharmacy in the Chicago College of Pharmacy, which he still retains. Active in pharmaceutical association work, he joined the American Pharmaceutical Association in 1879, the Illinois Pharmaceutical Association in 1881, serving as secretary in 1890–91, and he has been elected honorary member of a number of western State pharmaceutical associations.

A member of the committee on "National Formulary" since its formation in 1886, Mr. Hallberg contributed considerably to the first edition. A delegate to the meeting of the Pharmacopœial Convention, held in Washington in 1890, he was elected a member of the Committee on Revision, and worked on the sub-Committee on Pharmaceutical Preparations.

Mr. Hallberg has contributed a number of papers to the American Pharmaceutical Association, and has been secretary and chairman in 1892 of the Section of Scientific Papers. During the past few years he has been most active in the Section on Education and Legislation.

Prof. Hallberg is secretary of the Section of Materia Medica, Pharmacy and Therapeutics in the American Medical Association.

June 27, 1903, the honorary degree of M. D. was conferred upon Prof. Hallberg in recognition of his invaluable services to medicine and pharmacy.

Prof. Hallberg was married in 1893 to Therese Bergstrom, formerly a resident of Stockholm, a son being born in 1897.

EDWARD J. THELIN

was born in Chicago, June 24, 1873. His father, Louis E. Thelin, a mechanic, was among the first of the Swedish Baptists to come to Chicago. His mother's maiden name was Mathilda Thoren. The elder Thelin passed



EDWARD J. THELIN

away in Chicago Dec. 24, 1902. The son, Edward, attended the public schools, and subsequently graduated from the Midland University and the Chicago Law School.

Fifteen years ago he was made assistant cashier at Mandel Bros., and in recent years has attained to the position of chief cashier.

Mr. Thelin is a member of the Ashland, Sheridan, Illinois and Waupausch Clubs, and of the Phi Alpha Delta fraternity. He has for several years been an active member of the Y. M. C. A. of Chicago.

WILLIAM F. ANDERSON

was born at Grand ave. and Elizabeth st., Chicago, May 6, 1859. He



WILLIAM F. ANDERSON

attended school until 1875, when he secured employment in a tea store. In 1883 he became manager of King's Tea Store on Grand avenue. Mr. Anderson learned his business so well, that in 1886 he was able to start in business for himself under the name of "The Anderson Tea Store."

In 1900 the business was incorporated as "The Anderson Tea Co." Since then it has expanded so as to comprise thirteen stores on the west side and three on the north side. The office and warehouse is located at 1020 West Madison st.

Mr. Anderson belongs to the Royal League, Tribe of Ben Hur, Modern Woodmen and the Fort Dearborn Club. He is a member of the Union Park Congregational Church. His home is at 209 Warren ave.

Mr. Andersons family includes Mrs. Anderson and two daughters.

JOHN AXEL AXBERG

was born Jan. 25, 1862, in Enåker parish, province of Vestman-



JOHN AXEL AXBERG

land, Sweden. During his younger

years he worked at the bench with his father, Anders G. Johnson, who was a shoemaker. His mother died in 1905 at the age of seventy-six. After working as journeyman in some of the largest shops in Sweden, the son started in business for himself, at the age of twenty-one. He thought there were greater opportunities to be found in America and in 1888 emigrated to this country, settling in Chicago. After a struggle of two years he was the proud possessor of a finely appointed shoe store. Later on, another store was established. He subsequently disposed of the first, and so owned one of the finest shoe stores on the south side, at 1217 E. 75th st. His last place of business was at 6956 Jackson Park ave.

Mr. Axberg belongs to the Court of Hercules, Independent Order of Foresters, the Baltic Lodge and the Odd Fellows. He was married Feb. 21, 1885 to Emma C. Hanson, born Sept. 17, 1862 in Wiksnäs, Dalarne. Five children have been born to them, viz., Elsa, Catherine, now dead, Edith Axelia, born Dec. 1, 1887, John Edwin, born April 9, 1892, Elfvera J. C., born June 22, 1898, and Milton G. A. born Feb. 13, 1906. Mr. Axberg has been treasurer of the Swedish Republican Club in the 34th ward.

GUSTAF H. CARLSON,

perhaps the most prominent surveyor in America of Swedish descent, was born in Malmö, Sweden, April 16, 1848. At the age of twelve he went to Germany, where he began to learn survey-



GUSTAF H. CARLSON

ing. Having returned to Sweden in 1869, he departed the following year for America where he settled in Kansas, remaining there until 1873, when he went to Chicago. From 1874 to 1877 he was engaged in Hyde Park, surveying the village and compiling an official atlas. The thoroughness and exactness of this work brought him at once into such prominence that the following year the Democratic nomination was tendered him unsolicited. Later Mr. Carlson compiled atlases of the city of Chicago, the city of Lake View, and the town of Lake. He had previously formed a partnership with Samuel S. Greeley, for the publication of these atlases, under the firm name of Greeley, Carlson & Company., which in 1887 was made a corporation,

under the firm name of the Greeley-Carlson Company. For ten years more Mr. Carlson continued as manager of the company, and all the work, including the planning of town sites, subdivisions and cemeteries, was done under his personal supervision. These atlases are regarded as authorities, and are used by the various departments of the city government of Chicago, and in the offices of attorneys and real estate men. The towns of Hegewisch, Pullman, Normal Park, Auburn Park, Chicago Heights and Edgewater are among those laid out by Mr. Carlson. He is frequently consulted as an eminent authority in cases of disputed boundaries in the city of Chicago, or where a high degree of accuracy is required, as in the location of the Leiter Building, the Auditorium, and other down-town buildings.

In 1898 Mr. Carlson sold his interest in the Greeley-Carlson Co., and opened an office of his own at 115 Dearborn St., where he is still located.

Nov. 8, 1878, Mr. Carlson was married to Miss Julie Vodoz, from Vevey, Switzerland, and they have two children, one son and one daughter.

In religion Mr. Carlson is a Christian Scientist. In politics he is a Democrat of the old school, having, however, voted for McKinley in 1896.

CARL A. JOHNSON,

a native of Illinois, was born in Bloomington, Sept. 3, 1875. He attended the city's public schools and later graduated from the Evergreen City Business Coll-



CARL A. JOHNSON

ege. For several years he was employed in the offices of the Chicago and Alton R. R. Co., in the car service department. He next was engaged for several years with various electric appliance firms in Chicago. In 1893 he was employed at the World's Fair. During the lull in business which followed, he entered the Illinois Wesleyan University at Bloomington, where he completed a three years' course. During the summer months he was employed in the New York Dental Parlors.

In the fall of 1896 he matriculated in the Dental College of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor and graduated with honors in June, 1899, receiving the degree of Doctor of Dental Surgery.

He at once embarked into practical dentistry at 59th and Mor-

gan St., Chicago, where he soon built up a lucrative practice.

In June, 1901, Dr. Johnson went to Europe, where he spent four months in study and travel. He also made a visit to his ancestral land, Sweden.

Dr. Johnson now has his offices at 59th and Halsted sts.

ANDERS G. LUND

was born on the 20th of July, 1857, in Vermland province, Sweden. He obtained a technical education from a private tutor and in the Tekniska skolan of Stockholm.



ANDERS G. LUND

He came to Chicago in April, 1882. Since 1892 he has conducted his own architect's office at 602 W. 63d st., Chicago. He has been successful in his profession and owns an apartment building at 6327–6329 Parnell ave. He recently removed to Palos Park, some twenty miles southwest of Chicago, where he has a comfortable home. He was married Sept. 16, 1890, to Ida Charlotte Lundgren from Helsingborg, Sweden, and is the father of three children — two girls and one boy.

CARL JOHAN NELSON,

Methodist clergyman, was born in Nättraby parish, Blekinge, Swe-



CARL JOHAN NELSON

den, July 24, 1866, and came to America in 1881. He was educated at the Swedish M. E. Theological Seminary at Evanston, and after finishing his studies there, he became a minister of the Gospel in the Swedish M. E. Church. He has been pastor of the Swedish Methodist Church at Pullman, Chicago, since September, 1900. Before coming to Chicago he resided in Worcester, Mass., and Racine, Wis.

Mr. Nelson was married Sept. 3, 1891, to Miss Susie A. Johnson of Evanston, and has three children.

AUGUST CHRISTENSON,

who is perhaps the only Swedish wholesale clothing dealer in the United States, was born in Ousby,



AUGUST CHRISTENSON

Skåne, Sweden, April 5, 1864. He attended school in Lund for four years. At the age of fifteen years he came to America, having made the long journey alone. Settling in Chicago, he learned the cigarmaker's trade, but left that and tried the occupation of selling books. Being successful, he continued in that line for three years. Then he went to Denver and established a book store, but the climate did not agree with him so he returned to Chicago and engaged in the manufacture of clothing, having formed a partnership with J. B. Whitney and M. S. Bullock, under the firm name of Whitney, Christenson & Bullock. They are doing business throughout the western states, employing ten salesmen and over 150 people in their factory.

Mr. Christenson, who was married in 1893, has an only son.

CHARLES ENGDAHL

was born Oct. 23, 1874, in the city of Oskarshamn, Sweden. After completing the grades of the grammar school at home he attended the Oskarshamn elementary, or collegiate school, for four years. In 1893 he came to the United States and lived the first year in Geneva, Ill. Mr. Engdahl then removed to Chicago, and became a bookbinder. In Oct., 1898, he formed together with Ernst Holmgren the firm of Holmgren and Engdahl, their bindery being at 305 Orleans st. After two years they moved to 254-256 Orleans



CHARLES ENGDAHL

st. In 1907 the growth of their business compelled them to move to their present extensive quarters at 14-28 Michigan st. At the

same time the firm was incorporated as the Holmgren, Engdahl and Johnson Co., Mr. Engdahl being chosen secretary and treasurer.

Mr. Engdahl is a steward in the First Swedish M. E. Church and was president of the Epworth League Society of this church for a number of years. He is a director of the Swedish Methodist Aid Association of Chicago.

JOHN P. SANDBERG

one of the leading Swedish-American manufacturers of Chicago,



JOHN P. SANDBERG

was born in Ysane, Blekinge, Sweden, Nov. 15, 1842, and emigrated to America in 1867. Coming directly to Chicago, he worked in different lines until he joined his brother in business, becoming a member of the firm, Sandberg & Co., which is engaged in the manufacture of engravers' woods. He was married in 1878, to Miss Nellie Johnson, with whom he has three children, one son and two daughters. In local politics Mr. Sandberg is independent, but in national matters he is a strong adherent of the Grand Old Party.

LUDWIG WAHLQUIST

was born Nov. 19, 1865, in Söndrum, Halland, Sweden. He ob-



LUDWIG WAHLQUIST

tained his education in the Swedish public schools and later he worked as a miller until he went to the United States in 1888. His destination was Chicago, where he did miscellaneous work for several years. In 1893 Mr. Wahlquist obtained a situation in a grill factory where he continued for a year. In company with E. Larson he subsequently established the Grand Union Grill Works. The business, at first small, has increased steadily and reached respectable dimensions.

Mr. Wahlquist is married to Alma Christina Johnson, who

was born in Asige, Halland. They belong to the Gethsemane Swedish Lutheran Church. Mr. Wahlquist is a member of the Independent Order of Svithiod.

ANDREW M. LUNDEEN

was born December 13, 1862, in Leksand, Dalarne, Sweden. His



ANDREW M. LUNDEEN

parents, E. P. and Anna Lundeen, are both natives of the parish of Leksand. The family left the old homestead and arrived in this country Sept. 15, 1871, settling in Lockport, Ill., where they still live.

Andrew is the second oldest of seven children, three of whom are still living. He attended the public schools of Lockport and later was employed by the Chicago and Alton R. R. Co. Since 1889, Mr. Lundeen has been operating in Chicago in real estate and lands. At present he is engaged in the sale of farm lands in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, Canada, and in the western states, doing a general farm land business. His office is at the Union Stock Yards.

Mr. Lundeen is a Republican and belongs to the Lutheran Church.

CHARLES F. SWANSON

was born in Gällaryd, Småland, Sweden, July 12, 1864. After attending the public school in his native village he emigrated in 1881 to the United States. For the last sixteen years Mr. Swanson has conducted a grocery and a meat market, located at 352-354 E. Division st.

Mr. Swanson is married to Annie Peterson from Motala, Sweden. They have two children, Charles



CHARLES F. SWANSON

Raymond and Laura Amelia. The members of the family belong to Moody's Church.

CHARLES W. LUNDBLAD

was born in the island of Gotland, Sweden, July 27, 1844. He was brought to this country as a



CHARLES W. LUNDBLAD

child by his parents who came over in 1848, being among the very earliest Swedish settlers. The family first settled in Quincy, Ill., living there for two years. His father succumbing to the cholera, his mother with the two sons, removed to Chicago in 1850. Here Charles obtained a common school education, attending the Franklin School.

For more than forty years he has been employed by the Chicago and Northwestern R. R., the greater part of the time in the capacity of locomotive engineer. In 1893 Mr. Lundblad lowered the time record on the Chicago-Milwaukee run from two and a quarter hours to two hours. Mr. Lundblad is a member of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers.

ERNEST W. LINDEEN

was born July 5, 1861, in Jemshög parish, Blekinge, Sweden. His parents were Swan P. and Johanna Lindeen. Mr. Lindeen, Sr., was a tailor, who in 1868 emigrated with his family to America and died in Chicago in 1882. Ernest obtained his early education in the Chicago public schools. He subsequently worked in meat markets, learning the ins and outs of the business, and in 1877 opened his own store. By Mayor Swift Mr. Lindeen was appointed meat inspector in the city of Chicago and served for two and a half years. He is now a member of the firm of Leengran & Lindeen, who conduct meat markets at 195 Sedgwick st. and 152 Townsend st.



ERNEST W. LINDEEN

In 1886 Mr. Lindeen was married to Hannah C. Nelson, in Chicago. Mrs. Lindeen was born June 13, 1860, at Högsby, Småland, Sweden, her parents being

John and Gustava Nelson. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Lindeen, namely, Arthur W., born July 8, 1888, died Oct. 7, 1903; Raymond E., born March 6, 1890; Evelyn M., born Jan. 27, 1892. Mr. and Mrs. Lindeen belong to the Immanuel Swedish Lutheran Church. They have both taught classes in the Sunday school for many years.

JOHN BRUNNER

was born near Warberg, Sweden. He graduated from the civil en-



JOHN BRUNNER

gineering course of the Royal Institute of Technology at Stockholm in 1887. In Sweden he served in the engineering corps of the state railway construction department 1887–88, and came to America in the latter year. Here he was engaged as assistant engineer in the bridge department of the Boston and Maine Railway 1888–90; chief engineer of the Mt. Vernon Bridge Co. of Mt. Vernon, Ohio, 1890–95; assistant chief engineer of the structural department of the Carnegie Steel Co., Pittsburg, Pa., 1895–96; city bridge engineer in Pittsburg, Pa., 1896–99; city engineer of Pittsburg, Pa., 1899–1902. He has held the position of assistant general superintendent of the North Works of the Illinois Steel Co. since 1902.

Mr. Brunner is a member of the following societies and clubs: the American Society of Civil Engineers, New York; the American Society for Testing Materials, Philadelphia; the International Association for Testing Materials; the American Railway Engineering and Maintenance of Way Association, Chicago; the Western Society of Engineers, Chicago; the Scandinavian Technical Society, Chicago; the Union League Club, Chicago; the Chicago Engineers' Club, Chicago; the Evanston Club, Evanston. He is also a Free Mason and Knight Templar.

In 1892 he married Miss Cora A. I. Mitchell of Mt. Vernon, Ohio, who is American born of English-Scotch descent. They have no children. They live at Evanston, Ill.

WALDEMAR WERNER WICHE

was born May 20, 1875, in Stockholm, where his father, Fredrick Wiche, was a merchant. His mother, who died in 1887, was Fredrique Ebert. The son was educated at the academic school of Ladugårdslandet and the col-

legiate school of Östermalm, in his native city. In the three successive years spent at the latter



WALDEMAR WERNER WICHE

institution he took the highest standing, also capturing several prizes for scholarship.

In 1889 Mr. Wiche with his son left for the United States, locating in Chicago. Here the latter immediately secured employment in the printing trade, working for Magnus A. Hess, as apprentice, for the Schubel Printing Co. and the Regan Printing Co., until 1896, for Donahue and Henneberry, as a job printer, and for Baker-Vawter Co., as job compositor, a year at each place. In 1898 he started a printing shop at 392 E. North ave., under the firm name of Behrend & Wiche. Two years later the partnership was dissolved and Mr. Wiche became sole owner of the business, which he continues at the same address.

Mr. Wiche is a member of the Unity Council No. 73, Royal League, also of Lessing Lodge No. 174, Order of Mutual Protection. He was confirmed at the Trinity Swedish Lutheran Church of Lake View.

EMANUEL SCHMIDT

was born in Hudiksvall, Sweden, April 28, 1868. He was educated at the Hudiksvall Gymnasium, where he studied from 1879 to 1886. He came to America in the latter year and in 1888 entered Colgate Academy, from which he graduated in 1890. He then entered Colgate University, where he graduated with honors in 1894, receiving the degree of Bachelor of Arts. He



EMANUEL SCHMIDT

next took a divinity course at the Hamilton Theological Seminary. In 1896 he entered the University of Chicago, where he took the degree of Bachelor of Divinity in in 1898, and that of Doctor of Philosophy in 1902.

As a student Schmidt took high rank. At the Colgate University he was awarded the second Dodge Entrance Prize, the Sophomore Latin Prize, the Junior Greek Prize and the Osborn Mathematics Prize. At the University of Chicago he held the fellowship in Semitic languages for two years. His scholarly attainments are further exemplified in the following published works: "The Temple of Solomon in the Light of Other Oriental Temples" (his doctor's thesis); "Svenska Baptister på 1700-talet", and "Guds och människans andel i världens evangelisering."

Dr. Schmidt belongs to the Greek fraternities, Alpha Phi, Beta Theta Pi, and Phi Beta Kappa.

Dr. Schmidt was for a time editor of *Hemmets Vän*, a literary monthly. In 1905 he accepted the presidency of Adelphia College, a Baptist institution just founded in Seattle, Wash., which office he still holds.

JOHN WILLIAM BELMONT

was born Dec. 14, 1863, in Jönköping, Sweden. His parents are Fredrick Gustav and Hedvig Belmont. The family emigrated in 1867, coming to Chicago and locating on the north side, Lake View being their home since 1882.

John attended the public schools, also a Swedish and a German school, ending by taking a course at the Chicago Athenaeum. He then obtained a situation with the Western Union Telegraph Co. and later worked in the freight department of the Baltimore and Ohio railway. In 1882 he became a compositor and started in the



JOHN WILLIAM BELMONT

printing business as a member of the firm of Belmont, Waddell & Co., at Clark and Monroe sts. In the latter part of that year he sold his interest and began work in the Chicago Times office. Subsequently he worked for some time in the Union Type Foundry. In 1885 he accepted a situation with the abstract firm of Haddock, Vallette and Rickcords, remaining with them for several years. In 1893 he was appointed bailiff by Sheriff Gilbert and two years later Sheriff Pease appointed him grand jury clerk. This post was filled by Mr. Belmont for three years whereupon he was appointed deputy circuit court clerk. He retained this position until November, 1902, when he was elected county commissioner. On Jan. 11, 1905, he was appointed Cook County

Agent. He was a delegate to the memorable state convention at Springfield in 1904 which was in session for two weeks.

Mr. Belmont was married May 17, 1899, to Miss Katherine Aiken of Chicago. She is the daughter of William and Margaret Roden Aiken, and was born April 20, 1873. Mr. and Mrs. Belmont have a daughter, Ruth Wilhelmina, born March 9, 1900. The family resides at 811 Clifton ave. Mr. Belmont is a member of the Knights of Pythias.

NELS M. LORENTZ

was born April 29, 1859, in Gullarp, Ousby parish, Skåne, Swe-



NELS M. LORENTZ

den. He enjoyed no schooling in childhood. On Aug. 9, 1875, he set out for Segeberg, Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, and became a journeyman in the art of carving ornaments from marble and alabaster. After three and one-half years he moved with his employer to Copenhagen. There he worked two and one-half years more with the same employer and then engaged in the business for himself. The raw alabaster was difficult to obtain. He therefore made trips to Hamburg, Germany, and to the island of Gotland, Sweden, looking up new sources of supply of alabaster and marble. He fashioned clock cases, jewel cases, vases, and many other kinds of ornamental goods and bric-a-brac. After six months the business had increased so as to require several workmen. But Mr. Lorentz, not being a Danish citizen, was restricted by the Danish labor laws from employing workmen. If he became a Danish citizen he would have to join the army. He therefore sold his business in 1882 and went to Chicago. He soon after obtained work in a lumber yard. His knowledge of German and Swedish was of great advantage and helped him to secure his next situation, one in a jelly and preserve manufactory. His next step was to work in a manufacturing tailor's shop where he remained four years and four months. For a period he worked for Butler Bros., on Adams St. On June 19, 1888, he purchased an interest in a general merchandise store at 67 E. Chicago Ave., the firm being styled Johnson and Lorentz. Two years thereafter he bought his partner's interest and conducted the store until the spring of 1907.

In June, 1907, Mr. Lorentz,

together with Mr. Davis, purchased the manufacturing tailor's business in which they both had formerly been employed. This enterprise was carried on at 18 Wendell st. under the name of Davis & Lorentz until 1907, when Mr. Lorentz retired from business.

Mr. Lorentz was married in Nov., 1895, to Hulda Olson, born April 28, 1875, in Karlstad, Vermland, Sweden. They have a son ten years old and a daughter seven years old. Mr. and Mrs. Lorentz reside at 2468 Wayne ave., Edgewater.

ERIK ANDERSON

was born at Granby, Kumla parish, Örebro län, Sweden, May 3,



ERIK ANDERSON

1864. When he was four years old his mother died, and his father moved to another province, leaving his son to be brought up by his uncle on the Vesta estate, where he remained until 1882 when, at the age of eighteen years, he emigrated to America. Locating in Chicago, he learned the tailor's trade, and after seven years started in his own business. He has specialized in the manufacture of custom trousers, doing an extensive business in that line at 137 Gault court.

Mr. Anderson is a member of the Swedish M. E. Church, and has served as trustee of his congregation for over twelve years. He has also been Sunday school superintendent for a number of years.

In 1889 Mr. Anderson married Miss Matilda Svenson. The couple have had three children, two of whom, Esther Elvira and Paul Leonard, are still living.

FRED MALCOLM JOHNSON

pastor of the Swedish Ev. Luth. Mission Church at Orleans and Whiting sts., was born July 27, 1857, at Nyebro, Eksjö, Småland. His parents were John G. Johnson and Martha C. Stark.

His early training was obtained in the public school in Eksjö. He came to this country July 1, 1875, and lived at North Warren, Chandlers Valley, Sheffield and Tidioute, Pa., until 1877, when he became a divinity student at Ansgarius College, Knoxville, Ill., continuing his studies for the ministry until 1879. Mr. Johnson was ordained Oct. 7, 1884, at Jamestown, N.Y., and was installed as pastor of the Tabernacle Swedish Mission Church in Chicago the 15th of the same month. He

held this pastorate until April 15, 1887, when he left to assume charge of the Swedish Mission



FRED MALCOLM JOHNSON

Church in Rockford, Ill. Here he labored for over ten years. On Dec. 17, 1897, he became pastor of Bethany Mission Church, Garfield boulevard and Fifth ave., Chicago. This charge he resigned Oct. 17, 1902. Rev. Johnson was received as pastor of the Swedish Ev. Luth. Mission Church on Orleans and Whiting sts. January 1, 1904. This is the mother church of the Mission Friends in Chicago and the United States and is popularly called the North church, being located on the north side. It had 525 members in 1905 and the building and its property is valued at $30,000. The parsonage, worth $5,000, is at 10 Whiting st.

Rev. Johnson has traveled as itinerant preacher and evangelist not only in this country but in Sweden, where he labored in 1882 and in the summer of 1886. He is the author of a devotional work on the 23d Psalm of David and has written numerous articles for Swedish religious papers.

On Jan. 10, 1887, Rev. Mr. Johnson was married to Emelia Maria Nelson of Chicago. She is a daughter of Per Adolf and Gustava Nelson and was born May 16, 1858. They have four children: Hildur Paulina; born June 8, 1888; Emelia Natalia, born June 16, 1890; Fred Malcolm, born May 25, 1892, and Martha Elvira, born Sept. 24, 1895. Mr. Johnson, Sr., died in Rockford, April 15, 1897. Mrs. Johnson, Sr., died in Chicago Oct. 18, 1905. Rev. Johnson's two brothers, A. W. and G. K. Stark, are ministers in the Augustana Synod.

ERNEST BIHL

was born in Vermland, Sweden, near the city of Karlstad, at a place named Gunnerud, March 1, 1860. By unavoidable circumstances and the financial reverses of his father, he was compelled to earn his own living at a very early age. After completing his course in the common school he entered as an apprentice in the Karlstad Mechanical Works, where he worked until emigrating in the spring of 1879. He came to this country without a single acquaintance or relative, and stopped in northern Michigan, where he worked for a few months in the lumber camps. Realizing what a disadvantage it was to be unfamiliar with the English tongue,

he quit his work and went to school to acquire the language. After a year's stay in Michigan,



ERNEST BIHL

he went to Chicago, securing employment in the South Chicago Steel Works, where he continued until 1883. With the few savings of those years of hard labor, he went to western Nebraska, then a wilderness, bought land, and started in as a farmer and stockman, meeting with a fair success. He lived in Nebraska until 1890, the latter part of that year acting as land agent for the Union Pacific Railroad Company. Thereupon he returned to Chicago, continuing his agency for the railroad company and at the same time engaging in a general real estate business in this city. He still makes this his business, and has his office in the pretty suburb of West Pullman. In 1898 he was elected township tax collector for the town of Calumet and was reelected in 1899. In the spring of 1902 he was elected to represent the 33d ward in the Chicago city council.

He was in 1904 and again in 1906 reelected to the same office. Mr. Bihl is married and has five children.

ANDREW G. JOHNSON was born in 1849, at Örebro, Sweden. He came to this country and to Chicago in 1871. Having a taste for business, he entered the Bryant and Stratton Business College. His course completed, he embarked in the coal business, meeting with a degree of success that years ago enabled him to retire from active business.

Mr. Johnson's interests seem restricted to his own home and



ANDREW G. JOHNSON

immediate surroundings, he having affiliated with no church, no fraternal societies nor other organizations. He was united in marriage to Miss Carrie Arend on March 25, 1891.

WILLIAM A. PETERSON

was born in Småland, Sweden, Feb. 23, 1867. The following year the family emigrated to the United



WILLIAM AUGUST PETERSON

States and settled first at Swede Bend, shortly afterward locating in Lost Grove township, Webster co., Ia. After one year's study at the Ames High School, young Peterson entered Iowa State College at Ames, graduating in 1887 with the degree of B.S. He also attended Augustana and Bethany colleges, for brief periods. For five years Mr. Peterson was principal of schools in various towns.

In 1894 he entered the medical department of Iowa State University. After two years of study he matriculated at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, of the University of Illinois, where the degree of M. D. was conferred upon him in 1897. Since then Dr. Peterson has practiced his profession with offices at 31st street and Wentworth ave., and in the Reliance Building, 100 State st. He specializes in diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat. Dr. Peterson is Medical Director of the Scandia Life Insurance Co. and a member of the medical staff of the Englewood Hospital and of the People's Hospital. He is a member of the American Medical Association, the Illinois State Medical Society and the Cook County Medical Society. He is on the rolls of the Iduna Lodge, I. O. G. T., I. O. O. F., Modern Woodmen, I. O. V. and the Wasa Society. Dr. Peterson was married June 20, 1899, and is the father of two children. He is a member of Salem Swedish Lutheran Church.

JOHN A. NYE

was born at Rösa, Skede parish, Småland, Sweden, Sept. 27, 1855.



JOHN A. NYE

He came to the United States with his parents in 1867. The party landed on July 16, 1867,

and pushed on to their destination, the pioneer Swedish settlement at Andover, Illinois. His father is John Nye, a retired farmer at Cambridge, Ill., and his mother is Eva Danielson Nye. Mr. Nye lived for a time in Sherman county, Kansas, where he served as county treasurer. He is now general agent of the Union Pacific R. R. land department, with office in the Marquette Building. Mr. Nye has been with the Union Pacific R. R. for twenty-one years. He has been president of the largest Republican precinct club in Chicago and belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

Mr. Nye is married to Orpah Morley, daughter of William and Emelia Morley. Their children are John W., Edith E. and Harold O. Nye. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

HERMAN G. NORDBERG,

president of the Swedish Singers' Union of Chicago, was born in Ystad, Sweden, Jan. 31, 1866. His father, Wilhelm Nordberg, a restaurateur, died at Ystad in 1883. His mother, Maria Christina Svenson, is still living.

Herman attended the public school, high school and business college. After leaving school he was a blacksmith for five years. In 1886 he left Sweden for this country, settling in Grand Rapids, Mich., where he secured work in a furniture factory. After two years he went to Brooklyn, N. Y., and shortly afterwards to Kansas City, Mo. Since Sept., 1889, Mr. Nordberg has been a resident of Chicago with the exception of



HERMAN G. NORDBERG

six months spent in Rockford.

Mr. Nordberg worked for six years in furniture factories and was for three years foreman in H. Z. Mallen's furniture factory in Chicago. Mr. Nordberg then obtained a position in dry goods department of Marshall Field & Co's wholesale house and remained there four years. During the subsequent ten years he has been bookkeeper for Nilsson Brothers, plumbers, 1463 Belmont ave.

Mr. Nordberg is a member of the Swedish Glee Club; King Oscar Masonic Lodge; First Swedish Lodge, I. O. O. F.; Monitor Council, Royal Arcanum, being secretary for three years. Since the organization of the American Union of Swedish Singers in Nov., 1892, he has been a prominent member of that body. As a dele-

gate of the Lyran male chorus he has attended all the conventions and singing festivals of the Western division and of the united choruses of America. Mr. Nordberg was chosen festival secretary at the Jamestown convention in 1901 and served until the Chicago festival in 1905. He was elected secretary of the Chicago contingent of the choruses in 1901 and retained the office for six years. In January, 1907, Mr. Nordberg was elected president of the Swedish Singers' Union of Chicago, which was in 1906 incorporated as a distinct body.

Mr. Nordberg is married to Esther V. Holmquist, born Oct. 22, 1871. The date of marriage was Nov. 18, 1903. A son, Herman Gerald, was born in 1905.

CARL A. EVALD,

pastor of the Immanuel Swedish Lutheran Church, was born at Helleby, Nerikes Kil, Örebro län, Sweden, May 25, 1849. His parents were Anders Andersson and Christina Sjöqvist, farmer folk, who later removed to Wretaberg, in Grödinge parish, near Stockholm, where his mother died in 1878 and his father in 1887. After attending parochial school, the son was placed under a private tutor and when ten years old entered the Carolinian collegiate school in Örebro. During the seven and one-half years spent there, he served as tutor in well-to-do families and also pursued private studies with the view of fitting himself for the ministry. During the last years at the institution he enjoyed the Thysselius scholarship. At the early age of nineteen years Mr. Evald began to preach, and in 1871 accompanied Per A. Ahlberg, the well known evangelist, on an extensive missionary tour through Småland. During this trip his thought of entering the ministry ripened into a fixed purpose.

In the fall of 1871 young Evald emigrated to America, immediately entering the Augustana Theolog-



CARL A. EVALD

ical Seminary at Paxton, Ill. Completing his course the following year, he was ordained a Lutheran pastor at the annual meeting of the Augustana Synod at Galesburg, Sept. 29, 1872. At this time the institution had no collegiate courses, devoting itself exclusively to the education of ministers. Many years later, however, Mr. Evald completed the collegiate course at the same institution.

His first call was to the Aug-

ustana Church in Minneapolis, Minn., serving that congregation until 1875, when he accepted a call from the Immanuel Church of Chicago, whose pastor he has been been from April 4 of that year up to the present time. It is a peculiar fact that the Immanuel Church has, from the time of its organization in 1853, had but two pastors, viz., the venerable Dr. Erland Carlsson and his son-in-law, the present pastor.

The Rev. Mr. Evald has been secretary of the Minnesota Conference; secretary, vice-president and president of the Illinois Conference; member and secretary of the board of directors of Augustana Hospital in Chicago for the last twenty years, serving continuously on its executive committee and almost without interruption as its secretary; member of the board of directors of the Chicago Lutheran Seminary since many years back; member of the board of managers of the Chicago Bible Society for a long term of years; at various times president of his mission district and of the Swedish Lutheran Pastoral Association of Chicago; also vice-president and member of the executive committee of the Lutheran Ministers' Association of Chicago, and vice-president of the Chicago Lutheran Jewish Mission.

Dr. Evald—the title of Doctor of Divinity was conferred upon him years ago—has contributed largely to a number of church publications, besides having edited several publications. For a number of years editor of *Nåd och Sanning*, he continued as associate editor when that publication was merged with *Fosterlandet;* he also edited *Barnvännen*, a religious paper for children, is a contributor to *Tidskrift för Teologi och Kyrkliga Frågor*, *Augustana*, *Ungdoms-Vännen* and *Korsbaneret*, besides editing his local church paper, *Församlings-Vännen*.

Dr. Evald has the distinction of being the foremost pulpit orator in the Augustana Synod. His sermons, carefully prepared and finely delivered, are models of religious eloquence. He is also an able lecturer in two languages, having often appeared on the lecture platform in Chicago and elsewhere.

Dr. Evald has been twice married, Oct. 4, 1876, to Miss Annie Fredrique Carlsson, a daughter of Dr. Erland Carlson and his wife, Eva Charlotta Andersson, born in Chicago April 11, 1856. She died Nov. 27, 1880, in Stockholm; May 24, 1883, he was united in marriage to her sister, Emmy Christine Carlsson, born in Geneva, Ill., Sept. 18, 1857. In the second marriage there are two daughters, Annie Fidelia Christine, born March 13, 1884, and Frances Lillian Charlotta, born Dec. 2, 1885. The eldest daughter is the wife of Conrad Emanuel Hoffsten, pastor of the Harlem Swedish Lutheran Church in New York City.

Dr. and Mrs. Evald reside at 218 Sedgwick st., in the parsonage of the Immanuel Church.

FRANK A. ROSE,

a leading Swedish merchant tailor, was born Sept. 19, 1864, at Tranås, Sweden. He emigrated to this



FRANK A. ROSE

country in 1880, arriving May 15. He lived for a time in New York and later in Galesburg, Ill. From the latter place he removed to Chicago.

Here he conducts a merchant tailoring business on a large scale, his establishment being in the Railway Exchange Building, corner of Jackson and Michigan boulevards.

The home of the Rose family is a handsome residence at 2857 Kenmore ave., Edgewater.

Mr. Rose is a member of the Marquette Club, the New Illinois Athletic Club, the Edgewater Country Chicago Association of Commerce, and is a 32d degree Mason.

FRANK A. SWANSON

was born Feb. 7, 1866, in Almundsryd, Småland, Sweden. He emigrated to America in May, 1891, and located in Chicago. Having pursued the building trade for about two years, he abandoned that occupation and engaged in the real estate, fire insurance and loan business, with office at 159 La Salle st. He is a director of Svea Building and Loan Association.

He is the originator of and is a director of Washington Park Hospital and vice-president of the National Mercantile Co. The Republican party has in him a strong adherent and active worker.

On March 3, 1900, Mr. Swanson was married to Hilda S. Peterson, born in Elmeboda, Småland,



FRANK A. SWANSON

Sweden. They have a daughter, Esther Hildegard, born April 25, 1903. The family resides at 7100 Drexel avenue, and belongs to the Gustaf Adolf Swedish Lutheran Church of whose council Mr. Swanson is a member.

FRITZ SCHOULTZ,

proprietor of the largest house in Chicago for the manufacture of theatrical costumes, was born of



FRITZ SCHOULTZ

Swedish-German parentage in Copenhagen Dec. 2, 1856. At the age of twenty he came to the United States. After obtaining his schooling in Stockholm, where he was raised, Mr. Schoultz worked at the typographer's trade in various Swedish printing offices in this country, including those of Engberg and Holmberg, *Scandia*, in Moline, Ill., and *Svenska Härolden*, published in Salina, Kansas, about 1880. He was for a number of years traveling agent for Swedish newspapers, such as *Folkets Röst*, of Omaha, and *Svenska Tribunen* and *Svenska Amerikanaren* of Chicago.

After marriage he engaged in the business of costumer, his wife being the proprietress of a small shop, furnishing amateur stage and masquerade costumes. By combined effort Mr. and Mrs. Schoultz rapidly increased the business, which is now one of the leading establishments of its kind, capable of furnishing the costumes for the most elaborate productions put on the stage. Mr. Schoultz has invested part of the earnings of the atelier in a palatial apartment house on Sheridan Road, in a fine residence district.

Mr. and Mrs. Schoultz both had training for the stage. Mrs. Schoultz, whose maiden name was Emilia Veth, was born in Milwaukee of German parents. She was for several years a member of the German Stock Company of actors in Chicago. Mr. Schoultz, while living in Stockholm, obtained dramatic training under Anders Selinder, the well-known ballet-master and theatrical manager.

Two daughters, Emma and Isabella, were born to Mr. and Mrs. Schoultz.

Mr. Schoultz is a member of the Germania Club, the Royal Arcanum, the Swedish Glee Club and the Svithiod Singing Club.

HANS E. HÄGGLUND

was born in Ambjörnarp parish, Elfsborg län, Sweden, Sept. 1, 1863. His parents, Solomon and Anna C. Petterson, worked a farm in Ambjörnarp. The son attended public school at home and college at Östersund. Later he was employed in the hardware business for several years in that city.

Since 1893 Mr. Hägglund has been a resident of Chicago, his first employment being that of a



HANS E. HÄGGLUND

blacksmith. Next he worked on a farm. In 1895 Mr. Hägglund established himself in the grocery business at 169 Elm st., where he has a brisk trade. He is also importer of all kinds of the well-known Eskilstuna cutlery. Mr. Hägglund is a member of the Merchants' Association.

NELS NELSON,

manufacturer of white vests for the wholesale trade, is operating a plant at 55 Evanston ave., employing up to 180 workers and turning out more than 200,000 garments a year. Mr. Nelson hails from the Swedish province of Blekinge, where he was born Oct. 9, 1844, at Pukavik in Ysane parish. His father was a retired innkeeper, named Nels Mattson, and his mother's name was Ingrid Ericson. The family immigrated to this country in 1863 and both parents died in Chicago in 1876.

Having attended common school and also a so-called Rector's school, young Nelson went to sea at the age of fifteen. Later he entered the naval academy at Karlshamn, passing the examination for captain's mate at nineteen. Again going to sea, he advanced to able seaman, serving on board ship until twenty-two years of age, when he signed papers as captain's mate on the ship Norge, Captain Holst, of Laurvik. After sailing for two years, during which time he rounded North Cape, and visited the ports of the Mediterranean, the Black Sea, the West Indies



NELS NELSON

and Central America, he landed in New York in 1868 with a view to become an American resident. For about two years subsequently he sailed as vessel master on the Great Lakes, whereupon he embarked in

the business of manufacturing tailor in the city of Chicago in 1869.

Mr. Nelson was married in November, 1879, to Emma Lyberg, born in Karlshamn, Sweden, Nov. 5, 1844. In the family are three living children out of a total number of nine. These are Hilda Bernhardina, born in 1876, and married in 1905, to Robert McFarren; Victor Emanuel, born in 1874, and married in 1898, to Dorothy Wood, and Alice Elizabeth, born 1887.

Mr. and Mrs. Nelson reside at 2112 Central st., Evanston. They are members of the local Swedish M. E. church, where Mr. Nelson has served for many years in various capacities, as trustee, deacon and superintendent of the Sunday school.

CHARLES A. ANDERSON

was born in Agunnaryd parish, Småland, Sweden, March 27, 1854. He learned the tailor's trade in his native country. In 1879 he emigrated and came to Chicago, where he has since resided continually with the exception of two years spent in Springfield, Ill. In 1886 he established a merchant tailoring business which he has made a success. He has two stores: one at 887 North Clark st., corner of Center st., another at 1806 North Clark st. The business is conducted under the firm name of Charles Anderson & Son. In 1883 Mr. Anderson was married to Miss Anna Peterson. They are the parents of five children, of whom three sons are living. One son, Frederic, is in partnership with his father. Mr. Anderson is a strong adherent of the Lutheran



CHARLES A. ANDERSON

faith and has been a trustee for many years of the Trinity Swedish Lutheran Church at Barry and Seminary avenues. The family reside in their own home at 2682 Evanston ave.

AUGUST G. ALMCRANTZ

was born in Södra Fogelås, Skaraborg län, Sweden, Aug. 21, 1864. His parents were Anders Gustaf and Fredrika Almcrantz. August attended school for several years.

In 1891 he emigrated and came to Chicago. After a few years' experience he engaged in the manufacture of guitars, mandolins and other musical instruments, at 6015 S. Halsted st. He makes a variety of high grade instruments, among them the "Orchestra Harp," his own invention. Other inventions of his are a detachable neck and

a detachable bridge for guitars, allowing the entire sounding-board



AUGUST GERHARD ALMCRANTZ

to vibrate, making the instrument more resonant.

Mr. Almcrantz is married to Cecilia Amalia, born Nov. 20, 1864, in Vestra Stenby parish, Östergötland. Her parents were Carl Fredrick and Caroline Amalia Stendahl.

Mr. and Mrs. Almcrantz have two children, Georgia Dorothea, born April 7, 1896, and Oscar Gerhard, born July 27, 1897.

AXEL E. SWENSON

was born at Hjertum, Bohuslän, Sweden, Sept. 6, 1865. For some years he attended private school in Göteborg. In 1882 he emigrated, settling in Chicago and embarking in business as building contractor and from that naturally drifted into the real estate business. He is also a member of the firm Swenson and Dahlquist, shoe dealers at 511 63rd st.

Nov. 20, 1893, Mr. Swenson was married to Miss Christina Stewart, born Nov. 17, 1872, in the Orkney Islands, her father being Alexander Nicholson, a Scotchman.

Their children are Caroline Elizabeth, Earl Alexander and Margaret.

Mr. and Mrs. Swenson are mem-



AXEL E. SWENSON

bers of the North Shore Congregational Church.

ALFRED E. HOLMES

was born March 25, 1866, in Sköfde, Sweden. His father having died, the family emigrated in 1877 with Chicago as their destination. The next year they moved to De Kalb, Ill., and settled on a farm. The boy, Alfred, remained there until he was confirmed, when he decided to make his own career. He went to Chicago, where he served an apprenticeship as machinist and engineer with the

American Steam Engine Co., also taking studies in evening classes. In 1886, at the age of twenty,



ALFRED E. HOLMES

Mr. Holmes became chief engineer for the clothing house of Willoughby, Hill & Co. After two years he was appointed assistant engineer in the Chicago Fire Department. In February, 1888, Mr. Holmes resigned in order to become chief engineer of the Shufeldt Distilling Co., retaining this post until the works were closed by the trust a year later. He then accepted a position as chief engineer and superintendent of machinery and buildings for the Alexander H. Revell Co., and has been employed in this capacity for the past sixteen years. He has also acted as consulting engineer for some of the large office buildings in Chicago.

During the year 1904–1905 Mr. Holmes was secretary of the Swedish-American Republican League of Illinois, and 1904–06 secretary of the Chicago Society No. 1 of the National Association of Stationary Engineers. He is Past Worshipful Master of King Oscar Lodge A. F. and A. M., member of Medinah Temple, of the Mystic Shrine, and in 1906 was elected a life member of the Oriental Consistory, 32d degree, S. P. R. S.

Mr. Holmes was married Feb. 1, 1890, to Minnie G. Nelson of Chicago, who was born Nov. 22, 1865. They have two children, Florence G. and Walter H. They live at 1072 E. Carmen ave. and belong to the Ebenezer Swedish Lutheran Church.

JOHAN A. HESSELBOM,

watchmaker and jeweler, was born April 7, 1864, in Animskog parish,



JOHAN ALFRED HESSELBOM

Dalsland, Sweden. His parents were Erik Magnus and Johanna Christina Hesselbom. After studying three years in the Åmål high school he began, in 1879, to learn

the watchmaker's trade at Karlstad. In September, 1885, he obtained a diploma as master watchmaker, and at the same time received the highest award, a silver medal, from the Upsala Trades Society for constructing a complete clock. After having worked as foreman with a jewelry firm in Stockholm he emigrated in 1886 to America, with Chicago as his objective point. Here he at once found employment with one of the large jewelry houses. He has worked at the Peacock, the Spaulding and Giles Bros. establishments. In 1892 he became foreman at the latter house. Mr. Hesselbom bought the jewelry store at 103 Garfield boulevard in 1895 and has since carried on a successful business there. He is watch inspector for the Pennsylvania and the L. S. & M. S. railway companies. Mr. Hesselbom still has in his possession the clock which secured for him the silver medal mentioned. Another clock built by him is a three-wheel electric clock showing hours, minutes and seconds. It may be placed any distance from the regulator clock. Another fine instrument of Mr. Hesselbom's invention is a guage which measures to the hundredth part of a millimeter and which will show plainly the difference in thickness of the middle and the end of a hair.

Mr. Hesselbom was married Jan. 1, 1887, to Emma C. Hagelin, who was born April 7, 1862, in Sillingebyn, Vermland, Sweden. A son, Albert John, was born July 7, 1887, and a daughter, Emmy Alice Christina, on Feb. 14, 1896. Albert is his father's assistant. The mother died Jan. 29, 1901. Mr. Hesselbom was re-married in July, 1903, being united to Miss Elizabeth Larson.

The family belongs to the Swedish Lutheran Church.

Mr. Hesselbom is a member of King Oscar Lodge of the Masonic order, John Ericsson Lodge of Odd Fellows, the North American Union and the Royal League.

JOHN WILLIAM OLSON

was born Feb. 10, 1867, in Visby, Sweden. At the age of two years,



JOHN WILLIAM OLSON

he was brought by his parents to America. His early education was acquired in the public schools of Porter, Ind., and Chicago. Subsequently he pursued studies in vocal music under private teachers, and in other subjects at a school of technology. Mr. Olson

is a cut stone contractor and has been in business some ten years, succeeding his father, who was engaged in the business for about eighteen years. The business was begun on a small scale with a few men, but has since attained proportions indicative of prosperity. The stone yards are at 3345 La Salle st.

Mr. Olson, who possesses a fine voice, was for many years a prominent member of the male chorus of the Swedish Glee Club. He has held the office of president in Armour Council, National Union, for four years.

Mr. Olson belongs to the Bethlehem Swedish Lutheran Church in Englewood.

Jan. 4, 1901, he was married to Miss Mabel Bennett of New York. They have one child, Kathryn Maxine.

JOHN BERG

was born April 27, 1842, on a farm near the city of Kristianstad, Sweden. After obtaining an elementary education in the public school, he learned the carpenter's and cabinetmaker's trade. Having taken a course in a business college, he emigrated to the United States. Since 1869 he has resided in Chicago, being engaged in manufacturing. He is the senior member of the firm of John Berg & Bro. The firm manufactures step, extension and common ladders, and house furnishing woodenware. The factory is situated at Wentworth ave., 50th st. and Fifth ave.

Mr. Berg has been a member and trustee of the Swedish M. E. Church, and a member and an officer of several fraternal lodges,



JOHN BERG

also a member of the Englewood Men's Club. Mr. Berg is president of the Parkside Loan and Savings Association.

RAGNA LINNÉ

was born in Christiania, Norway, of Swedish-Norwegian parentage. On her father's side she is a descendant of Carl von Linné, the renowned Swedish botanist. Even at a tender age she manifested an exquisite vocal talent. At the early age of twelve years she served as vocalist in the Catholic cathedral of her native city. Later on she won fame by her singing in all the principal cities of Europe.

Coming to the United States in 1885, she located in New York. Pursuing her career as a singer, she appeared in concert in various parts of the country, and as church

soloist. Her greatest triumphs, however, she won as a member of the Metropolitan English Grand



RAGNA LINNE

Opera Company and the Castle Square Opera Company. After her removal to Chicago, Mme. Linné has been very active in the musical circles of the city, as teacher, concert singer and soloist on numerous public occasions. She has been engaged as soprano soloist at the Second Presbyterian Church, the Sinai Temple, and the South Congregational Church, all in Chicago. Mme. Linné is also much sought after as a singer at Swedish festivals.

For a number of years back she has been a member of the faculty of the American Conservatory of Music. On her tours of the states as a member of various concert and opera companies, Mme. Linné has sung in the principal cities of every state in the Union.

JOHN MELANGTON

was born Feb. 8, 1872, in Brunskog parish, Vermland province, Sweden. He attended the common school until his twelfth year, when he went to work as a tailor's helper. He came to Chicago in September, 1892. For a while he attended North Park College, but soon returned to his trade, meanwhile taking lessons in grading and designing in a school for tailors. By 1897 he had attained such skill as to warrant him in accepting a position as designer with the Edward Ely Co., tailors. Since 1902 Mr. Melangton has been a member of this firm, the oldest of its kind in



JOHN MELANGTON

Chicago, and well known throughout the country.

Mr. Melangton was married in 1897 to Miss Christina Rollen from his native place. He belongs to the Swedish Mission Church and is a deacon in the congregation of

which he is a member. He has been president of the Young People's Society and of the church choir.

CARL OSCAR LUNDIN

was born Oct. 11, 1847, in Stockholm, Sweden. In 1868 he emi-



CARL OSCAR LUNDIN

grated to America and made Chicago his home.

Mr. Lundin is the son of a harbor master, Johan Lundin. He learned his trade as painter in his native city; in this country he worked for the Illinois Central R. R. Co. for many years. A desire for independence led him to begin business for himself in 1883 and at present he deals in stationery, books and music.

At twenty-eight years of age Mr. Lundin was married to Ida Maria Anderson, who was born in Stockholm, 1855, who came to Chicago with her parents in 1868. Four children were born to them but all are now dead.

Mr. Lundin is an Odd Fellow and a Forester, and has held the office of financial secretary and treasurer in the Balder Lodge.

EDWARD JOHNSON

was born in Sweden, June 30, 1864, at Persgärde, near Karlshamn. From 1885 on he has been a resident of Chicago, where he engaged in the baker's trade. For many years he was employed by the National Biscuit Co., having charge of various departments. When the bakers' strike began in 1903, he opened a bakery at 3607 N. Clark St. His business here has been steadily increasing in volume.

Mr. Johnson received a good education in the old country, attending the collegiate school at



EDWARD JOHNSON

Kristineberg. He is a capable and interested worker in Bethany Swed-

ish M. E. Church, he has been president of the Epworth League, secretary of the Mission Society and superintendent of the Sunday School home department. He has also developed some activity in politics, serving five years as secretary of his precinct Republican Club in the 26th ward and clerking for a time in the county treasurer's office during Sam B. Raymond's incumbency.

Mr. Johnson and Miss Nellie Christina Nelson were married April 24, 1901. Of three sons born to them, two, Edward Stanley and Garfield, survive. Mrs. Johnson is the daughter of Charles J. and Hannah Nelson of Chicago.

AXEL JONAS WALTER AF JOCHNICK

was born Oct. 25, 1859, in Karlberg Castle, Sweden. He was a



AXEL JONAS WALTER AF JOCHNICK

member of a noble family of German origin, the ancestors having immigrated to Sweden about 150 years ago.

At fifteen years of age he enlisted as a volunteer in the Svea Artillery. Two years later he graduated and at eighteen became a sub-officer, the youngest in the Swedish army. Resigning in 1880, he went to London to become instructor in the Kellberg Gymnastical Institute. After two years he went to Berlin and there established a similar institute, patronized, among others, by Prince Bismarck.

The New World, with its greater possibilities, next attracted the young and energetic man. Going to Chile, he served for a few years as instructor in gymnastics and fencing in the government military school, with a salary of $10,000 a year. From Chile he went to Uruguay and, after staying there for a short interval, located in Buenos Ayres. For five years he was instructor in gymnastics, anatomy and massage in that city, gaining great popularity among the native aristocracy as well as in the little Swedish colony there. Jochnick is said to have been conversant with no less than thirteen languages, besides having a fine knowledge of the sciences and of music. When war suddenly broke out in 1890, Jochnick enlisted and fought with heroism under his adopted country's flag. The cause being lost and the army vanquished, he fled to Brazil with his wife, Selma Jochnick, to whom he was married in the Argentine Republic. For a time he was in

the employ of the Brazilian government.

The Columbian Exposition attracted the couple to Chicago in 1893. Here they established an institute of gymnastics and massage, Mrs. Jochnick having also taken a thorough course in these sciences in Sweden.

When the Spanish-American War broke out, Jochnick was one of the first to offer his services to the government. He, together with other Swedish ex-officers, worked zealously to form a regiment of Swedish-Americans in Chicago. This was done, and Jochnick was appointed major, but before the regiment was ordered out for active service, the war closed.

In the early part of 1903 Mr. Jochnick's robust health was undermined by consumption and on March 27 of that year death put an end to his honorable and highly varied career.

Mrs. Jochnick continues the massage and gymnastical establishment instituted by her husband at 937 Edgewater place.

MARTIN LARSON,

orthopedic shoe manufacturer, was born April 8, 1867, at Löfvestad, Sweden, where his father, Lars Akeson, was a farmer. His mother, Elgena Nelson, died in 1874 and his father twenty years later. He came to this country in 1887, equipped with what education he had acquired in the common school. After stopping from May to November of that year in St. Paul, he came to Chicago, locating here permanently.

Mr. Larson is the inventor of a method for the extension or



MARTIN LARSON

correction of short or deformed nether limbs which conceals the defects by matching the limbs successfully with their perfect mates, an improvement on the old method of bulky cork soles, metal extensions, etc. His orthopedic shoe business also includes the making of custom shoes to fit slighter pedal inequalities common to many persons other than cripples. The shop is at 54 Fifth ave.

Mr. Larson was married March 3, 1898, to Ellen Lind, daughter of Sune J. Lind. They have two sons, Karl Oscar, born Jan. 15, 1904, and Ernest Hjalmar, born Nov. 29, 1906.

In 1901 Mr. Larson was elected deacon of the St. Paul Lutheran Church, of which he is a respected member.

ERNST HUGO BEHMER,

actor and organizer of the Swedish Theatrical Company of Chicago, was born in the parish of



ERNST HUGO BEHMER

Grödinge, in Södermanland, Sweden, June 30, 1872, the son of Erik Behmer, a merchant,and his wife Emilie Julia, née Hané, both deceased. His parents taking up their residence in Stockholm in 1875, he was reared and educated there, attending the Östermalm Elementary School and the North Latin School in Stockholm and being graduated from the latter in 1889. Two years later he emigrated, coming directly to Chicago. In November, 1893, he secured employment as shipping clerk with the house of Selz, Schwab and Co., boot and shoe manufacturers, remaining with them for eight years. Since then he has been with the American Radiator Co. and is now purchasing agent of that house. Sept. 19, 1896, he was married to Miss Fredrique Wilhelmine Lindström. Their children are, Lisa Hildegard, born Nov. 24, 1897, and Erik Hugo, born Oct. 23, 1900. Mr. and Mrs. Behmer made a trip to Sweden in 1897, visiting the Stockholm Exposition.

Being possessed of dramatic talent, Mr. Behmer began to appear as a public entertainer and in 1893 became actively attached to the local Swedish-American stage. In 1899, he and Mr. Chr. Brusell entered into partnership and organized the Swedish Theatrical Company. During subsequent years a large number of Swedish plays have been given in Chicago theatres and halls, principally the North Side Turner Hall, the Studebaker Theatre the Grand Opera House and the Garrick Theatre. Besides playing the old popular Swedish dramas, this company has given many plays new to Swedish audiences in this city, including, "Per Olsson och hans käring," by Gustaf af Geijerstam; "Smålandsknekten," by August Bondeson; "Sven och liten Anna," by Herman Martinson; "Öregrund–Östhammar;" "Ljungby Horn" and others. Mr. Behmer has partly rewritten "Anna Stinas illusioner," adapting it to local conditions and naming it "Anna Stina i Chicago." He has also written a number of topical, humorous and sentimental songs with which the plays have been interpolated. Several of these have appeared in the Swedish local press. Omitting minor parts, the following are some of the chief

characters enacted by Mr. Behmer: Anders in "Vermländingarne," Lasse, in "Nerkingarne;" Jeppe, in "Jeppe på berget;" Botvid the Friar, in "Bröllopet på Ulfåsa;" Petterson, in "Anderson, Petterson och Lundström;" Squire Dahl, in "Jernbäraren;" Ringdahl, in "Öregrund–Östhammar;" Brother Jonathan, in "Bror Jonathan, eller Oxhandlaren från Småland;" Olof, in "Ljungby horn;" Olle, in "Per Olsson och hans käring;" Father Hieronymus, in "Regina von Emmeritz;" Professor Klint, in "Svärfar;" Petruchio, in "Taming of the Shrew;" Brander, in "Farbror Knut från Norrköping" and Lieutenant Ferdinand von Henning, in "Mäster Smith;" the title part in "Charles XII.," and Torwald Helmer in Ibsen's "A Doll's House."

In 1904 Mr. Behmer separated from Brusell and organized the Swedish Dramatic Co., of which he is director and stage manager.

OSCAR NELS OLSON,

Lutheran minister, was born Jan. 28, 1876, in Qvidinge parish, Skåne, Sweden. His father, Ola Anderson, who was a farmer, died in 1885. His mother, Johanna Nilsson, died in 1887. The son emigrated to America in May, 1890. From 1893 until 1896 he attended Upsala College, in New Jersey. He was a student for the next two years at Augustana College, graduating with the degree of A. B. After spending a year at Yale University, he pursued studies at Mt. Airy Theological Seminary in Philadelphia from 1900 to 1902. The next year he completed his theological



OSCAR NELS OLSON

studies at Augustana Theological Seminary at Rock Island, receiving the degree of B. D. Mr. Olson was ordained minister of the Swedish Lutheran Church June 14, 1903, in Paxton, Ill. He is now in pastoral charge of St. Paul Church, in Moreland, and of Lebanon Lutheran Church in Berwyn.

June 6, 1906, the Rev. Mr. Olson was married to Miss Ida Wilhelmina Peterson of Fort Dodge, Iowa, born Dec. 8, 1878, daughter of C. O. and Mathilda Peterson.

OSCAR DELL OLSON,

attorney and counselor at law, is a younger brother of Edwin A. Olson, the well-known attorney, and associated with him in the practice of the profession.

Oscar D. Olson was born at

Cambridge, Ill., June 17, 1875, his father, Charles Olson, living there as a retired farmer. Having



OSCAR DELL OLSON

finished the high school in Cambridge, he pursued scientific studies at Valparaiso, Ind., and subsequently entered the Chicago Law School, completing the course leading to the degree of LL. B. in 1897, and that of LL. M. the following year. He was admitted to the bar by the Supreme Court on examination in 1898, at Springfield, having since devoted himself to legal practice. In the fall of 1906 he was appointed assistant state's attorney.

He takes an active interest in politics and is an enthusiastic fraternity man, as witness the fact that he was elected secretary of the Swedish-American Republican League of Illinois for the year of 1902-03, and that he is a life member of the 32d degree Masons, past master of the Boulevard Lodge No. 882, A. F. and A. M., and now president of the Illinois Odd Fellows League, consisting of delegates from all the Odd Fellows lodges in the state.

Mr. Olson was married Feb. 3, 1906, to Miss Hildred Trozelle of Windom, Minn., born May 10, 1885.

ADOLF F. BERGBOM,

member of the manufacturing firm of Bergbom and Roberg, hails from the parish of Dref, Småland, where he was born at the Boxholm Iron Mill Nov. 10, 1847. His schooling began at the age of six, in the home of his grandfather, with his aunt as teacher and her spinningwheel as his only school-



ADOLF F. BERGBOM

mate. He remained under her tutorship for a year. For four months each year thereafter for six years he had tuition in the parish school. At thirteen he became his father's helper in the Asafors

mill, Stengårdshult parish. At sixteen he went to work under a five year contract as gunsmith's apprentice in the Husqvarna Arms Factory. As soon as the contract expired he emigrated, leaving from the city of Jönköping March 24, 1869, and landing in Boston one month later. Coming on to Chicago, he first got work in a stove factory as model finisher and afterward worked in machine shops. Bergbom was appointed foreman in the tool and milling department of a sewing machine factory in the spring of 1880 and held that position for six years, leaving in 1886 to open a machine shop in partnership with C. F. Roberg. This firm has continued in business ever since, with shops formerly at 26-28-30 Michigan st., now at 30 West Randolph st.

In 1874 Mr. Bergbom was united in marriage with Miss Hilda Johnson, born in Virserum, Småland. Six sons and three daughters have been born to them, four of whom, three boys and one girl, have been claimed by death.

Politically Mr. Bergbom is a Republican and has voted the party ticket with few exceptions. Since his coming to America he has affiliated with the Mission church and is a member of the Maplewood congregation. He has served as organist and choir leader for over twenty-five years and as trustee and treasurer for more than fourteen years.

VICTOR G. ROCINE

was born Sept. 6, 1856. His father was of French origin and adopted the name of Lundquist.



VICTOR G. ROCINE

His mother came from Norway. Twenty-six years ago he emigrated from Sweden to the United States.

He has fitted himself for his profession in six schools from all of which he has graduated. The last six years he has lived in Illinois. Dr. Rocine is president of the Human Science School at 130 Dearborn st., where he publishes "*Human Culture*, a monthly journal devoted to character reading, human science and self development." He devotes much time to lecturing, organizing societies for the study of his specialty. He is the author of two professional works; "Mind Training" and "Diet Guide".

Dr. Rocine is married and has a son.

OSCAR F. ENGWALL

was born on the island of Visingsö, Sweden, July 20, 1850. His ancestors for several generations back



OSCAR F. ENGWALL

were foresters or held other positions in the service of the Crown. They especially distinguished themselves in furthering the cultivation of the magnificent old oak forests. His parents had expected their son to follow the traditional occupation and possibly rise to the position of royal master-forester. He studied for some years with this purpose in view but a severe illness compelled him to abandon the course, later engaging in the watchmaker's trade. After having fully mastered his trade he left Sweden in the year 1873 with America as his destination. For more than thirty years he has been employed by C. D. Peacock, the leading jeweler of the West. In Chicago the Swedish watchmakers, like the Swedish tailors, are considered the most skillful in the trade. C. D. Peacock therefore employs 22 of them in the watch department with Mr. Engwall at the head.

This befitting recogniton of his skill Mr. Engwall has gained by keeping abreast of the times in all the details of his trade. People who have met in a business way consider him one of the most skillful watchmakers in this country. The fact that the United States Patent Office has recently issued letters of patent for an automatic watch regulator invented by him bears ample proof of his extraordinary ingenuity. A leading watch manufacturing company of the West is negotiating for the purchase of this invention. Experts say it will revolutionize the watch industry. Mr. Engwall is also the holder of another patent issued several years ago for an ingenious opera glass handle which is now in general use in England, France Germany and Austria.

Mr. Engwall was married in 1875 to Miss Margaret Carlson, from Östergötland, Sweden. They are the parents of seven children, of whom three daughters are living. Mr. Engwall is trustee of Garfield Park M. E. Church and resides at 936 Walnut st.

ELVIRA M. WENNERSKOLD

was born in Chicago Sept. 22, 1874. Her parents, Charles A. and Augusta M. Wennersköld, were born in Östergötland, Sweden, where her father was a school-

master before he emigrated in 1870. He pursued further studies in Galesburg and at Princeton, Ill.



ELVIRA M. WENNERSKOLD

and then traveled as an evangelist founding several Swedish Mission congregations. He retired from the ministry in 1876 on account of ill health, and died in 1900. Her mother, Augusta M., has a millinery and dressmaking establishment in Englewood.

Miss Wennerskold gave early evidence of musical talent. At the age of nine she took piano lessons from Miss Bancroft. After graduating from the Parkman School, she studied at the Chicago Piano College under Charles Watt. She subsequently finished her piano studies at the Chicago National College of Music under the tuition of W. Waugh Lauder, at the same time studying theory, harmony and composition with the general director of the college. She received, in 1897, a gold medal for the best scholarship and was engaged by the college as a piano instructor. Since leaving this position Miss Wennerskold has continued her studies in harmony under the direction of Louis Campbell-Tipton of the Chicago Musical College.

Her studio is at 5509 Fifth ave., where she gives class and private instruction in harmony and piano.

FRANK A. LUNDQUIST

was born June 24, 1868, in Galva, Illinois. His parents were early settlers in that region, having emigrated from Sweden in their youth. When he was two years old the family removed to Lindsborg, Kansas, where his father, N. P. Lundquist, still lives.



FRANK A. LUNDQUIST

Frank was one of the first students at Bethany College in Lindsborg. He graduated from the commercial department in 1891. After spending a year in California he went to Chicago and worked

for the Bell Telephone Co. There he became impressed with the idea that an automatic telephone would be a commercial possibility. The next year he returned to Lindsborg and communicated his ideas to his old friends, John Erickson and Charles J. Erickson. They together worked out several automatic telephone instruments which were patented. These patents are now owned by the Strowger Automatic Telephone Exchange and by them are leased and distributed to various manufacturing companies. Their telephones were first installed at La Porte, Ind., and later in other places.

In the spring of 1897 Mr. Lundquist perfected another automatic telephone system, the first exchange of which was installed in Stirling, Kansas. The National Automatic Telephone Co. was formed and several hundred exchanges in all parts of the United States operate under this new system. The company was reorganized in 1902, as the Globe Automatic Telephone Company of Chicago. Mr. Lundquist was manager and electrical engineer. He has now resigned the managership and devotes all his efforts to the technical side of the business. He he has applied for and secured about thirty patents upon this new system. Many of the patents have proved to be fundamental and to cover the system known as the "trunking system," which is used in the construction of all large automatic exchanges now in operation.

One of the novel inventions recently brought out by him is a method by which the number called for will be indicated on the face of the instrument, a visual proof that the desired telephone connection has been made.

Mr. Lundquist in 1898 married Anna M. Anderson of Galva, Ill. They belong to the Lutheran Church.

CARL A. STILLE

was born in Svenarum parish, Småland, Sweden, and came to



CARL A. STILLE

this country in 1869. He settled in Geneseo, Ill., where he lived for three years. He then removed to Chicago, where he has since resided.

Mr. Stille is the proprietor of a carriage factory, located at 81 Twelfth st., where he employs a large number of men.

Mr. Stille was married in 1885, to Miss Agnes Widman, with whom he has two children, a boy and a girl.

J. WILLIAM JOHNSON

was born April 6, 1866, in Forshem, Skaraborg län, Sweden. After attending the common school



J. WILLIAM JOHNSON

he worked on the farm until he went to the United States, where he landed in April 1887. Mr. Johnson has lived in various places in this country, including Farmer's Valley, Pa., Joliet, Ill., Bloomington, Ill., Kansas City, Mo. and Chicago. He has had a variety of occupations, such as tanner, stone quarryman, coalminer, blacksmith, cowboy and mason. For eight months Mr. Johnson was a cowboy in Kansas. The work was hard, but thrilling and full of interest.

The mason's trade was learned in Chicago, and is the foundation of Mr. Johnson's present vocation, that of mason contractor. Mr. Johnson has been married for seven years to Maria Lundstedt.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnson belong to the Swedish Baptist Church in Englewood.

OLOF FERDINAND NELSON,

member of the Osgood Company, photo-engravers and electrotypers, and superintendent of their plant, is the son of Olof Nilsson, a cabinetmaker of the city of Halmstad, Sweden. He was born there April 22, 1867, and obtained his education partly in his native town, partly in the public schools of Chicago, having come to this city in 1882, with his parents.

He worked as an electrotyper until he was master of the craft. In 1890 he was offered the position of foreman in the Osgood plant, advancing next to that of



OLOF FERDINAND NELSON

superintendent. He became a member of the firm some seven years ago.

The so-called Nickeltype process, making electrotypes more durable than by the old process,

and superior in quality, is the invention of Mr. Nelson. It is used extensively in the United States and in Europe, bringing the inventor a comfortable sum in royalties annually.

When in 1883 the Svithiod male chorus was organized, Nelson was one of the first to join and has ever since taken an active part in the musical life of the Swedes of Chicago. In 1892 the chorus was incorporated under the name of Svithiod Singing Club, a social organization admitting other members than singers. In the club Mr. Nelson has been entrusted with all the different offices, respectively, and is at the present time a member of the board of trustees, which has the management of the club property valued at $20,000. He was president of the American Union of Swedish Singers from 1901 to 1905 and was the first president of the Swedish Singers' Union of Chicago, in 1906. He acted as treasurer of the picked chorus of the American Union, which made a tour of Sweden in 1897.

Mr. Nelson is a member of the Independent Order of Svithiod, has held the offices of chairman and secretary in Manhem Lodge No. 2, and is a thirty-second degree Mason.

On Feb. 3, 1894, he was united in marriage to Miss Christine Rasmussen, who was born in Denmark Nov. 8, 1871. With their one child, Ethel Christine, born Dec. 5, 1894, they live at 936 Winona ave. Mr. Nelson's business address is 66 Sherman st.

GUSTAF EDWARD SCHUCH,

minister of the Swedish Lutheran Church, was born April 5, 1871,



GUSTAF EDWARD SCHUCH

in Jönköping, Sweden. Before emigrating to America he had studied at the college and technical school of his native town. Since his arrival in this country he has resided in Boston, Rock Island, Negaunee and Chicago.

He was graduated in 1897 from Augustana College, and in 1904 from Augustana Theological Seminary, receiving at the same time his A. M. degree. June 5, 1904, he was ordained pastor in the Swedish Lutheran Augustana Synod and then took pastoral charge of the congregation at Austin, Chicago. In 1905 Rev. Schuch assumed the pastorate of the Zion Church in Chicago.

In 1900 he was wedded to Miss Amanda Evelina Sundberg, a daughter of a well-known family in Negaunee, Mich.

The father of Mr. Schuch was born in Frankfurt am Main, Germany.

The mother of Rev. Schuch was from Halland, Sweden.

Rev. Schuch has made profound studies on the subject of mediæval history and has an extensive library pertaining to this subject.

CHARLES G. PETERSON

was born March 26, 1846, in Hvetlanda, Småland, Sweden. He



CHARLES GUSTAF PETERSON

comes from a long lived family. His paternal grandfather, John Boldt, served as cavalryman in the war of 1814 and died in 1856. His grandmother, Catharina Boldt, died aged 93 years. His mother's father, Olaus Krook, served in the war of 1818, was retired on a pension, and died at an advanced age in 1857. His wife passed away about 1847. Their daughter Anna Carrie, was born in 1820, married Nils Peterson and died in 1853. Charles' father, Nils Peterson, was born in 1818, became an overseer on the government farm in Öland, and died in 1901.

Charles G. Peterson, after attending school, drove a stage coach while still in his 'teens and was otherwise employed up to 1869, when he emigrated, coming to Chicago via Montreal.

In turn he became a blacksmith's helper, carpenter and butcher. He joined the Chicago fire department in 1883 and remained a member until retired on a pension in 1902.

Mr. Peterson was married Feb. 14, 1870 to Helena Carlson of Chicago, born Nov. 7, 1843. Her father, Peter Carlson was born in 1818 and died in 1902. Her mother, Ingrid Widen, was born in 1822 and died in 1883. Her maternal grandfather, Peter Widen, was a soldier in the Finnish war of 1809 against Russia, helped to dig the Göta Canal and died aged 85 years. His wife, Märta, died at the age of 90 years.

To Mr. and Mrs. Peterson have been born, Erick Edward, 1871. Apton Hjalmar, 1872, John Albert Leopold, 1875, Carl Frederick Arthur, 1877, Gustaf Emanuel, 1879, Louis Nathaniel, 1881, George Wendell, 1884, and a daughter. Erick is married to Ma-

thilda Peterson, and Apton to Carolina Rooks.

Mr. Peterson joined the Swedish Lutheran Bethlehem Church in 1877. For three years he was a deacon, and is now a trustee of the church. The family home is at 825 West 61 St.

KNUT SUNDSTEN

was born in Stockholm, Sweden, in 1866. After completing his



KNUT SUNDSTEN

studies at a school in Örebro, he was employed for a year as clerk in Hamburg, Germany. He afterwards went to London, where he worked for two years in the capacity of salesman in the colonial trade. In 1889 he came to Chicago, where he became interested in the real estate business. At first he acted as agent, and then, having met with considerable success, he started in business for himself. Mr. Sundsten is still engaged in this business and has an office in the Chicago Opera House Block.

He is married and resides at 937 Edgewater place. Several fraternal societies claim him as a member.

ANDREW REESE,

minister of the Swedish Methodist Episcopal Church, was born July 12, 1860, in Ransäter parish, Sweden, where his father, Andreas Riis was a farmer. Equipped with a Swedish common school education, he came to the United States in May, 1880. Having lived in Montclair, N. J., five years and in Brooklyn, N. Y., three years, Mr. Reese took up studies at the Swedish Theological Seminary at Evanston, Ill. He was ordained as deacon of the M. E. church Sept. 13, 1891, and as elder Sept. 8, 1895. Since



ANDREW REESE

his ordination he has served as preacher in Maywood, Ill., one

year; in South Chicago, Ill., four years; in Donovan, Ill., six years, and is at present pastor of the Humboldt Park Swedish M. E. Church, having been stationed there in September, 1902.

The Rev. Mr. Reese was married on Oct. 26, 1892, to Signe Elizabeth, daughter of Dr. William Henschen. Their union is blessed with seven children, born as follows: Agnes Elizabeth, 1893; Oliver William, 1894; Alice Leila, 1896; Helen Margaret, 1897; Anna Wilhelmina, 1901; Frances Louise, 1903; and Kenneth Andrew, 1905.

CHARLES A. HOFVANDER

was born at Ellinge, near Lund, Sweden, Dec. 25, 1853. Having



CHARLES A. HOFVANDER

obtained an elementary education in the public schools, he learned the shoemaker's trade in Lund. Mr. Hofvander has been a resident of the United States and the city of Chicago for twenty-five years, having come over in 1882. After ten years in this country he started in the shoe business at 137 Oak st., where he is still located.

Mr. Hofvander is a member of the Immanuel Swedish Lutheran Church and has served as secretary of the Bethesda Society of that church.

AXEL E. THOMPSON

was born March 22, 1875, in Chicago. After gaining his early edu-



AXEL E. THOMPSON

cation in the city public schools he attended the Metropolitan Business College. At the age of fourteen he entered the employ of the New York Life Insurance Co. as office boy. By persistent attention to his duties he gained promotion from time to time. Having been cashier of the branch office in St. Louis for a short time, he returned to Chicago as general agent of the company, with offices in suite 304–322 Stock Exchange Building

In a contest covering a period of a year, in which 500 men participated, Mr. Thompson won the presidency of the New York Life Chicago Hundred Thousand Dollar Club, which is the largest organization of its kind in the life insurance business.

Mr. Thompson is sergant-at-arms of the Swedish-American Republican League of Illinois, president of the Swedish-American Republican Club of the 31st ward, and is president of the Swedish-American Central Republican Club of Cook county. He is Past Grand of John Ericsson Lodge No. 361, I. O. O. F., and belongs to Boulevard Lodge No. 882, A. F. and A. M., Oriental Consistory (32d degree) and Medinah Temple A. A. O. N. M. S., Masonic orders.

Mr. Thompson was married Feb. 23, 1895, to Marie Elizabeth Godey. They have two children, Myra Elizabeth, born July 12, 1899, and Douglas Eugene, born April 26, 1902, their first child having died in infancy.

LYDIA HELEN HALLBERG

was born in Chicago, Aug. 12, 1880. Her father, Anton A. Hallberg, a native of Gamleby, Sweden, came to Chicago in 1872.

Miss Hallberg began taking piano studies at the age of eleven. Being gifted with a sweet soprano voice, she commenced at the age of seventeen to take vocal lessons from Dr. H. S. Perkins. She then attended the Chicago Musical College and studied the voice with John R. Ortengren, harmony with Dr. Louis Falk, Italian with Sig. Alfieri and composition with Felix



LYDIA HELEN HALLBERG

Borowski. Miss Hallberg was graduated in 1905. She has chosen the career of vocal teacher and has amply demonstrated her ability. Her studio is at 5509 Fifth ave.

Miss Hallberg is soloist at the Bethany Swedish Mission Church having filled that position for a number of years.

GUSTAF A. AKERLIND,

mechanical engineer, is a native of the province of Södermanland, Sweden, where he was born March 21, 1856, in a parish named Gåsinge. His father, Daniel Akerlind, who was a master mechanic, soon after removed to Värby, in Botkyrka parish, renowned for its ancient church, built as early as 1128. The family after a time made their home at Tumba, where

the paper mill of the Bank of Sweden (riksbank) is located.

In 1879, his elementary schooling completed, young Akerlind



GUSTAF ALFRED AKERLIND

entered the Institute of Technology in Stockholm. At the end of the first term there he won several prizes and also captured one of the scholarships. Having completed a three years' course at the institute and worked with various manufacturing firms during vacations so as to gain practical experience, he secured a situation as assistant superintendent of the Mechanical Works at Visby, Gotland, then owned by Graham Brothers.

The young engineer at the age of twenty-nine came to the United States, resolved to risk success or failure in the unlimited field offered by the enormous industries of this prosperous country. At the time of his coming, in 1887, the outlook for men in his line, inexperienced in American methods, was not the best. After a short stay in New York City, he went to Philadelphia, where he obtained his first position of relative permanence with the Ashton Hand machine works of Toughkenamon. Not long afterward he was offered a position as draughtsman in the Riehls Brothers Testing Machine Works, where he continued for nine months. He held a similar position with the Pennsylvania Railroad engineering department in Altoona, Pa., from 1889 to 1891. This was known as a splendid school for the training of young mechanical engineers for railway work, and, having spent two years there, he easily obtained a more lucrative position in the shops of the New York, Lake Erie and Western Railroad, at Susquehanna, Pa. Early in 1892 Mr. Akerlind entered the service of the "Big Four" Railway and in December of the same year took a position with the Brooks Locomotive Works at Dunkirk, N. Y.

In January, 1896, Mr. Akerlind gave up that position to become chief of the draughting department of the Rock Island railway system, his residence in Illinois dating from that time. Before coming west, Mr. Akerlind had won a notable triumph in 1894, in a competition arranged by the *Locomotive Engineering*, a leading railway journal, for the best plans for a railway locomotive affording the greatest safety and comfort for the crew. The competition was open to the world and three prizes were offered, one of which

went to Mr. Akerlind who, besides, received honorable mention for having submitted the most original plans. Later he secured patents on several of the safety devices suggested in his plans.

His connection with the Rock Island Railroad has been fruitful of a number of practical improvements in its rolling stock. It was his brain that evolved the tender steps and handholds with which Engine No. 1,101 was first equipped, all the passenger and freight engines being subsequently equipped with these attachments. A car transom, which is used on all freight cars built by that road since 1897, is another of his patents.

In 1902 Mr. Akerlind left his position with the Rock Island company for a more profitable one with the Chicago Malleable Iron Works. Being one of the men, whose talents and skill the strongest companies in the country are bidding for, he had not long been engaged there when the National Coal Dump Car Company made him so flattering an offer, that he felt it a duty to himself to accept. He is still with this company, with offices at 1717 Railway Exchange Building, Michigan ave. and Jackson boulevard, having held the position of mechanical engineer with that concern since May, 1903.

Mr. Akerlind is a member of several associations, including the Scandinavian Technical Society of Chicago, of which he is now one of the directors. A brother of the engineer is C. L. Akerlind, of Rock Island, foreman of the press-room of the Augustana Book Concern. Their father died in 1901.

JOHN N. ALQUIST

was born Oct. 13, 1865, in Ardre parish, Gotland, Sweden. He came



JOHN N. ALQUIST

to America Dec. 14, 1889, and went to Connecticut, where he remained ten months. Chicago soon attracted him and in the fall of 1890 he made this city his home. Having joined the Swedish Free Mission Church, he took a course of instruction in 1892–93, at D. L. Moody's Bible Institute.

In the summer of 1893 he left for the mission field of Africa, having been engaged by the Scandinavian Alliance Mission. After reaching Lamoa, British East Africa, he worked under the direction of Missionary Emil Hedenström among the Galla and Pokomo tribes. Soon Mr. Ahlquist's health failed him, however, and in 1895

he was compelled to give up missionary work. Returning to Chicago, he was engaged for several years as a book and news agent. In 1896 he married Brita Lena Johnson, née Bengtson, born in Ås parish, Halland.

Desirous of establishing a business of his own, Mr. Alquist in 1902 settled on the south side and opened a book and stationery store, also dealing in toys, confections and notions, at 1136 W. 59th st.

He and his family are members of the Swedish Mission Church in Englewood.

AXEL B. C. CARLSTEDT,

founder and principal of the South Side College of Music, was born



AXEL B. C. CARLSTEDT

in the Swedish city of Helsingborg, July 26, 1849. His ancestors, both on the father's and mother's side, had been organists, musical directors, teachers and composers for many generations back. The position of organist of the churches in Södra Villie and Örsjö had been held by members of the Carlstedt family for 130 years. Mr. Carlstedt studied music under several teachers in Sweden up to 1872. That year he came to this country and entered the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston. The following year he was graduated with the degree of Doctor of Music. Subsequently he was engaged in the teaching and execution of music in the state of Massachusetts until 1876, when he came to Chicago, becoming one of the very first of the musical profession to establish himself as teacher in this city. After several years he was called as teacher of piano at the St. Joseph Seminary, in Kankakee, Ill. From there he removed to Decatur in 1882 and there founded the Decatur Conservatory of Music. Tiring of life in a small city, he left after three years, returning to Chicago in 1886. Here he continued his profession for a number of years, and in the latter '90s established the South Side College of Music, which is now in its tenth year. The institution is located at 600 Englewood ave.

Dr. Carlstedt was married in 1876 to Miss Annie Bird of Boston, a niece of General Terry. To them seven children have been born, four of whom, two daughters and two sons, are living.

Dr. Carlstedt is the eldest of a family of thirteen children. The fact that his first initials are the

first three letters of the alphabet is not an accident. Thereby hangs a tale that is sufficiently interesting to go on record. All the children were named alphabetically, and being given three names apiece, the alphabet was exhausted, whereupon the father resorted to numbers twelve and thirteen. The list of names—probably the oddest in existence—is here given:

Axel Bernhard Conrad; Dagobert Edvard Fritiof; Gustaf Harald Julius; Knut Leonard Matildius; Nellie Olivia Pauline; Quelie Rosalie Sophie; Teresa Urania Vilhelmina; Xesia Yrsa Zephania; Åberta Ägir Östgöta; Detolfta Johanna Marie; Bror Tretton Methodius. The death of two children in infancy, who are not included in the list, explains why the daughter named Twelve and the one named Thirteen are the tenth and the eleventh in the list. All the nine surviving children are following the musical profession, six in Chicago and three in New York.

HUGO ADALVARD OLDENBORG

was born at Hammar, Nerike, Sweden, July 26, 1868, his parents being C. C. Oldenburg, a clergyman, and Johanna Maria, née Hertzman. Beginning his education in the public school of Hammar, he entered the collegiate school of Askersund in 1887. Subsequently he studied at the collegiate school of Örebro, graduating in 1888. The following year he began the study of medical gymnastics under Director Liedbeck of Stockholm. Mr. Oldenborg was assistant to Director



HUGO ADALVARD OLDENBORG

Cleve, of the Medevi health resort, during the season of 1890-'91. During the summer of 1892 he conducted a medical gymnastic institute of his own at Öregrund. For three years, 1890–1893, he was a student at the Royal Gymnastic Central Institute of Stockholm, graduating as Director of Gymnastics. In July, 1893, Mr. Oldenborg left Sweden and located in Chicago, where he has since practiced his profession.

In the summers of 1897 and 1899 Mr. Oldenborg studied gynecological massage under Dr. Stapfer in Paris, France. For the last six years he has taught kinesitherapy — massage and medical gymnastics — at Rush Medical College, first as assistant, now as associate in the department of

Therapeutics, having charge of the instruction in kinesi.

Mr. Oldenborg's marriage to Miss Maria Ohlson of Kristianstad, Sweden, took place June 24, 1899.

JOHN ERICKSON
AND
CHARLES J. ERICKSON

John Erickson was born in Filipstad, Sweden, Jan. 25, 1866. The



JOHN ERICKSON

parents emigrated in 1869 to America and were among the first settlers in the Swedish colony at Lindsborg, Kansas.

Charles J. Erickson was born in Lindsborg, Kans., July 23, 1870. Until 1893 the two brothers remained under the parental roof. The boys both had a genius for invention. Together they contrived and perfected the first automatic organ and piano player, now used under various names all over America and Europe.

The brothers have been inseparable in all their undertakings. In 1893 they went to Chicago in order to perfect and introduce to the commercial world their automatic telephone switchboard. Capital was interested, and after a few years the electrical world was startled with the news that the automatic telephone switchboard was a success. One million dollars had been spent in perfecting the system, but the result has more than justified this immense expenditure. The Automatic Telephone Co., at Van Buren and Morgan sts., with a factory employing over 1,000 men, is unable to make instruments rapidly enough to supply the demand. The system is being installed in towns and cities both in Europe and the United States, Chicago being among the



CHARLES J. ERICKSON

number. The system does away with telephone operators, a simple

device enabling the subscriber to make his own connections.

Fourteen years of painstaking effort passed before the Erickson Brothers brought their ingenious invention to its present state of perfection.

The brothers are close observers of physical phenomena and are well-informed on practical scientific topics. They are admirable examples of pluck and singleness of purpose.

John Erickson was married in 1900 to Miss Mary Josephine Lindskog, from Karlstad, Sweden. They have a son, John Arthur.

Charles J. Erickson was married in 1898 to Miss Maria Elizabeth Schonbeck from Stockholm. They have a daughter, Hazel Elizabeth, and a son, Roy Charles.

VICTOR E. JOHNSON

was born in Kroppa parish, near



VICTOR E. JOHNSON

Filipstad, Sweden, Jan. 31, 1875.

Emigrating in 1884, he came to Chicago. After working here for various firms, he engaged in business with his brother, Charles H. Johnston. In 1900 he, together with Wm. Johnson, started the Superior Iron Works at 141–143 Ontario st. The firm manufactures all kinds of iron work for building purposes and brass castings, also doing jobbing and machine forging.

Mr. Johnson is a member of the A. F. & A. M.

In January, 1900, Mr. Johnson was married to Miss Emilia Ericson from Fogelvik parish, Vermland, with whom he has one son.

OTTO CARL JUEL CARLSON

was born June 9, 1875, in Östra Torp, Sweden. After having attended the public school in his native village, he came over to this country and settled in Chicago in July, 1890. Having worked half a year in a bakery, he obtained employment with Wendell & Co. where he learned the lapidary trade. After a couple of years he began to work at jewelry and diamond setting continuing until 1898, when he left for Hallandale, Florida. While there he acted as organist of the Bethlehem Church. After a year spent in Florida, Mr. Carlson returned to Chicago and resumed work for his old employers. He is now engaged as diamond setter with the jewelry house of Spaulding and Co.

Mr. Carlson has pronounced musical talents. He has studied piano for some years and has been

for the last few years under the skillful guidance of the well-known Swedish vocal teacher of the Chi-



OTTO CARL JUEL CARLSON

cago Musical College, John R. Ortengren. Mr. Carlson has a clear and pleasing tenor voice. He was for eight years a member of Lyran Singing Society and also belonged to the Swedish Glee Club. He was one of the chorus of fifty-five Swedish-American singers who visited the Stockholm exposition in 1897. Mr. Carlson is a member of the Trinity Swedish Lutheran Church and is the leader of its church choir, and also of the Arpi male choir.

Mr. Carlson was united in marriage to Miss Josephina Oström June 5, 1907.

JOHN N. JOHNSON

was born on a farm near Sköfde, Sweden, Feb. 2, 1865. He attended school until about the time of his father's death, in 1878, when he had to take charge of the farm work as best he could as a lad of thirteen. The mother had died two years previously. There were three sisters and three brothers of whom John was the oldest.

He came to America and settled in Paxton, Ill., in 1884, beginning work on a farm. Later on he learned broommaking and in 1887 left for Chicago. Here he secured employment in a broom corn commission house where he was employed until 1897. That year he engaged in a similar business, with one Morse as partner. At the present time he is associated with H. E. Smallbone and J. L. Flannery in the manufacture of shuttles and other parts for sewing



JOHN N. JOHNSON

machines, he being vice president of the Johnson Shuttle Company. The business is located at 606 Wilson ave., Ravenswood.

Mr. Johnson was married Aug. 24, 1893, to Emma W. Johnson.

Of their five children but two, Reuben and Myrtle, survive.

He is connected with the Mission Church in Ravenswood and is an active church worker, having served as trustee, deacon, financial secretary, treasurer and Sunday school teacher.

ARTHUR C. LENBERG

was born in Vestergötland, Sweden. His father is a school teacher



ARTHUR C. LENBERG

in the parish of Varnhem. Emigrating in 1888, he located in Chicago, securing work as a grocery clerk. For some time he lived in Kansas City, engaged in the same occupation. Mr. Lenberg is at present devoting his time to the piano business. Having been manager of Story and Clark Piano Company's branch store at 1804 N. Clark st. for a time, he embarked in the business independently, going in as a member of the firm of the Johnson Lenberg Co., which is now in the piano business at 1510 Belmont ave.

Mr. Lenberg is a Lutheran.

In 1893 he was married to Miss Anna Bargquist of Chicago. They have a son, George C., and a daughter, Ruth L. Lenberg.

ANDERS J. LÖFGREN,

Methodist clergyman, was born in Vestra Eneby parish, in the pro-



ANDERS J. LOFGREN

vince of Östergötland, Sweden, on Oct. 2, 1857. He received his education in the collegiate school at Lunnevad and in the Normal School in Linköping. In 1886 he emigrated to America and two years later, at the annual convention of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Chicago, was ordained to the ministry by Bishop G. Andrews. During the next twelve years he served as pastor and as presiding elder in Kansas and Nebraska, until in the fall of 1899 when he was appointed, by Bish-

op J. N. Fitzgerald, pastor of the First Swedish Methodist Church of Chicago. He became presiding elder of the Chicago District of the Central Swedish Conference.

In 1906 he removed to Brooklyn, and assumed charge of the Immanuel Swedish M. E. Church.

FREDRIK G. and
CLARA E. HEDBERG

were born, respectively, at Norrtelje, Uppland, May 25, 1846, and Boxholm, Sweden, Feb. 18, 1850.



CLARA E. HEDBERG

Mr. Hedberg is the son of Magnus Leonard Hedberg, a tanner of Norrtelje, and his wife is the daughter of Carl Ekdahl, a blacksmith at Boxholm. Both were in charge of Bethany Home, a Methodist institution for old folks, for about ten years, Mr. Hedberg as manager and his wife, matron.

They retired from their charge June 1, 1907.

Mr. and Mrs. Hedberg are members of the Bethany M. E. Church in Ravenswood. Their children are Fredrik G. and Henry E. Hedberg.

CARL G. SWENSON

was born in Småland, Sweden. In 1884 he emigrated to this country and first settled in Shelton, Neb., where he attended high school for about a year to learn the English language. He then began the study of medicine in the office of a physician in a small Nebraska town. In 1887 he was licensed as a pharmacist. Soon afterward Mr. Swenson took a medical course at Rush Medical College in Chicago, from which he was graduated in 1891, receiving the degree of M. D. He then went to Omaha, Neb., and there built up a lucrative practice.



CARL G. SWENSON

Desiring, however, a larger field for his work and wishing to study the methods of the great surgeons,

he came to Chicago in 1894, where he was attached to the Augustana Hospital for almost two years. He afterwards opened an office in 318 E. Division st. Although he now has a large practice, he has always taken a keen interest in hospital work. He later became attached to the Passavant Hospital attracted to that institution by the skillful surgeon, the late Dr. Fenger. Dr. Swenson's care and skill soon won for him a place on the surgical staff of the hospital, and he is now one of the attending surgeons.

A marital union of three years' duration was dissolved in 1905 by the death of his wife, whose maiden name was Christine Johnston.

Dr. Swenson now resides at 754 Fullerton ave., corner of Clark st.

CARL RICHARD CHINDBLOM was born Dec. 21, 1870, in Chicago, where his parents have lived since then. They are Mr. Carl P. Chindblom, tailor by trade, and Mrs. Christina C. Chindblom, née Engel, who came to this city from Åsbo, Östergötland, Sweden. The son studied in the public schools of the city and also attended a private school for the study of the Swedish language. In September, 1884, he was enrolled as a student in the academic department of Augustana College, at Rock Island, Ill., graduating from this institution with the degree of A. B., in May, 1890. He then continued his studies and engaged in various employments until the fall of 1893, when he accepted a position as teacher in the Martin Luther College, an institution then just opening in Chicago. He pursued



CARL RICHARD CHINDBLOM

the work of an educator until the fall of 1896, when he severed his connection with the college. During this period he received the honorary degree of A. M. from Bethany College, Lindsborg, Kansas. In January, 1897, he enrolled as a student in the Kent College of Law in Chicago and graduated therefrom with the degree of LL. B., in June, 1898. The law requiring three full years of study for admission to the bar, he continued his preparation for the legal profession until the spring of 1900, when, upon examination before the State Board, he was admitted to practice. Since that time he has followed the profession of the law in the city of Chicago, and has offices at the present time in suite 807–811, 160 Washington st. For several years he has been

secretary and attorney for the First Swedish Building and Loan Association.

Mr. Chindblom is widely known as a public speaker and has filled many appointments to make addresses on festival and other occasions not only in Chicago, but at other places in Illinois and in other states. He is a Republican in politics and has done much campaign work in his home city and state and elsewhere. In the fall of 1894 his services were engaged by the Republican State Committee of Michigan and in the campaigns of 1896, 1898 and 1900 he did service as political speaker for both the Illinois State and the National Republican Committees, speaking in both the English and the Swedish languages. Mr. Chindblom was in 1903 elected president of the Swedish-American Republican League of Illinois. He is a member of the Gethsemane Swedish Lutheran Church and of several fraternal and social organizations.

He has served on the board of directors of Augustana College and Theological Seminary, also on that of the North Star Benefit Association, with head office at Moline, Ill. He was one of the committee which re-organized the present Scandia Life Insurance Company. Early in 1906 Mr. Chindblom was appointed attorney for the State Board of Health, by Governor Deneen, and in the fall of the same year was elected county commissioner on the Republican ticket.

Mr. Chindblom was married April 27, 1907, to Miss Christine M. Nilsson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hjalmar Nilsson of Minneapolis. Mrs. Chindblom is an accomplished pianist. They reside at 614 Foster ave.

AKSEL G. S. JOSEPHSON,

cataloguer of the John Crerar Library, was born in Upsala, Oct. 2, 1860. His father was J. A. Josephson, musical director at the University of Upsala and one of the famous song composers of Sweden.



AKSEL GUSTAV SALOMON JOSEPHSON

Mr. Josephson in 1885 established himself as a bookseller in the university town. After twelve years spent in the book trade, during which time he stocked up with a vast quantity of bibliographical knowledge, Mr. Josephson came to the United States and enrolled at the New York State Library School at Albany. His course completed, he obtained a

position in 1894, as assistant in the Lenox Library, now a part of the New York Library. On March 1, 1896, he assumed his present position of cataloguer of the John Crerar Library in Chicago.

On April 27, 1899, Mr. Josephson was married to Lucia Engberg, daughter of the late Jonas Engberg of Chicago.

Mr. Josephson is a member of many clubs and societies, chief among which are Svenska Litteratur - Sällskapet of Upsala, the American Library Association, the Bibliographical Society of America and a member of its council, the City Club of Chicago, the Gutenberg Gesellschaft of Mainz and of the Swedish-American Historical Society. Of this last named society, which came into existence in 1905, Mr. Josephson was one of the organizers and was elected its first treasurer and made chairman of its library committee. He is now secretary of the society.

The following contributions to bibliographical lore have been made by Mr. Josephson, to wit: Catalogue of Swedish and Finnish Dissertations at Universities and Schools, published at Upsala, 1892–97. List of Bibliographies of Bibliographies (1901); Bibliography of Union Lists of Serials (1906). In a pamphlet issued by him in 1905, entitled, Plan for the Establishment of the Bibliographical Institute, Mr. Josephson interestingly develops his ideas as to the organization, scope and uses of such an institution.

JOHN L. SWENSON

was born in Skärstad parish, Småland, Sweden, Jan. 1, 1850. When he was two years old, the family



JOHN L. SWENSON

removed to the city of Jönköping. In its public schools he received his early education. His schooling was interrupted, however, when at the age of thirteen he obtained employment in the printing shop of *Jönköpings Tidning*, and remained there until he emigrated in 1865, when he came to Chicago and worked in the *Hemlandet* printing office. He subsequently was employed by J. M. W. Jones Co., and by Stromberg, Allen & Co.

Almost immediately after his arrival in Chicago, Mr. Swenson became a member of the Svea Singing Society, which chose him instructor and director three years later. In 1870 Mr. Swenson organized the Scandinavian National Quartet, with which he made an ex-

tensive concert tour in Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin and Minnesota.

When Christina Nilsson first visited America and Chicago, Mr. Swenson was chosen to direct the united Scandinavian choruses who sang at the reception given the prima donna in Germania Hall, Chicago. He also wielded the baton at the benefit concert given by her in behalf of the St. Ansgarius Church.

About this time Mr. Swenson was offered the directorship of the Freja Singing Society, then one of the foremost musical organizations of the city, and remained its director for a period of nearly ten years. Since that time he has directed the following singing societies: the Typographical Männerchor, the Scandinavian Quartet Club, the Swedish Singing Society, reorganized as the Swedish Glee Club, the Svithiod Singing Club, and the Lyran Singing Society of Rockford, Ill., besides several quartets and other smaller organizations. Mr. Swenson was musical director of the Svithiod Singing Club for about fifteen years, retiring in 1906.

At a competitive singing festival, held at the Auditorium, Chicago, Jan. 11, 1896, in which male choruses of seven different nationalities took part, the Svithiod singers carried off the championship banner, while Mr. Swenson received a gold medal with this inscription: "John L. Swenson, Trophoeum Cantatorum, Competitio Musicalis. Chicago, Jan. 11, 1896."

At the present time, and for years past, Mr. Swenson is the director of the Björgvin Norwegian male chorus, and has raised it to a high standard of song. At its twenty-fifth anniversary concert, given at Garrick Theatre in May, 1907, Mr. Swenson was presented with a gold laurel wreath medal, set with diamonds, as a token of their appreciation of his long services during the past fifteen years.

Aside from the duties implied in the foregoing, Mr. Swenson has always been engaged more or less in church musical work. Thus he has been attached to the Olivet Presbyterian, the Centennial Baptist, the Norwegian Methodist Episcopal, the Immanuel Swedish Lutheran and the Lincoln Park Congregational churches for various periods from the '60s to the present time.

In order to familiarize himself thoroughly with the higher class of choral work, Mr. Swenson has been a member of the Chicago Oratorio Society, under the leadership of Hans Balatka, the Apollo Club, under William Tomlins, and other singing organizations of the highest class. In the last named club he has been an officer. In voice culture and training he has been a pupil of Mme. Redington, Mme. Barnett of the Cecilian Academy, and Dr. Parker, and has studied harmony with Henry Schoenfeld.

Mr. Swenson was married to Miss Sophie Anderson Sept. 24,

1885, and they have three children, Grace, Henry and Ruth.

They have always lived at their own home, 1712 Deming pl.

In view of his long, successful and manysided career as musical director, Mr. Swenson may well be given credit for having done the most of any man so far in fostering among the Scandinavian population of Illinois love for their national songs and training their singers to artistic rendition of the same.

VICTOR J. TENGWALD,

pastor of the Elim Swedish Lutheran Church in Pullman, Chicago,



VICTOR JOHAN TENGWALD

was born March 6, 1860, in Tingstäde, Gotland. In his early childhood his parents removed to Halmstad, Sweden, where he received his education in the grammar school and college of that city. After devoting some time to private tutoring he emigrated to America in 1879. He remained in the eastern states about two years, being employed as bookkeeper and teacher. In 1881 he became principal of the graded parochial school of the Immanuel Swedish Lutheran Church, Chicago, which position he held until 1887. The following year he was employed by the Engberg-Holmberg Pub. Co. as editor and completed the "Läro- och läsebok för svensk-amerikanska församlingsskolor," a Swedish reader still used in parochial schools. In the fall of that year he entered the Augustana Theological Seminary at Rock Island, where he graduated, and was ordained to the ministry in 1890. Since then he has had pastoral charges in Buffalo, N. Y., 1890–1894; in Jamestown, N. Y., 1894–1895; in Grand Rapids, Mich., 1895–1900, and since that time in Chicago.

Rev. Tengwald served in 1895 as secretary of the New York Conference. He was unanimously elected secretary of the Illinois Conference of the Augustana Synod in 1905, an office to which he was reelected in 1906 and 1907. He has also been entrusted with the chairmanship in various church organizations.

In 1884 Rev. Mr. Tengwald was married to Dorothea Högström, who died in April, 1905. Mrs. Tengwald was widely known for her active church and school work, as also for her literary ability.

Rev. Tengwald is the editor of a monthly church paper, *Bekännaren*. From time to time various

articles on religious subjects from his pen have appeared in different publications.

In 1907 he was united in marriage with Emma Sundquist of Chicago, who is eminently gifted for church work.

AXEL JOHANSON,

importer of Swedish merchandise, was born in Ålem parish, Småland,



AXEL JOHANSON

Sweden, Dec. 24, 1867. In 1888 he emigrated to America, landing April 24 in Boston, where he worked until the following year, when he took a prospecting trip westward, and finally arrived in Chicago, in May, 1889. He has since made this city his home.

In 1896 he started the firm known as the Swedish Produce Co. with location on S. Water St., and began to import all kinds of Swedish merchandise. Of this firm he was the proprietor until he sold out his interest in June, 1896, and with his family took a trip to Sweden. During his stay there he made connections with some of the large manufacturers, and he now represents some of the largest firms of Sweden, whose manufactures he is introducing into this country. Mr. Johanson is at the present time one of the largest importers of Swedish merchandise products in the United States. His office is in the Masonic Temple.

In 1889 Mr. Johanson was married to Miss Hilma Nelson, with whom he has three children, one boy and two girls.

In politics he takes no part beyond doing his duty as a citizen and a Republican at the elections.

JOHN K. NORSTROM

was born on a farm near Lindsborg, Kansas, Jan. 13, 1869. He



JOHN K. NORSTROM

is said to be the first white child born in McPherson county. His

parents are C. F. Norstrom and Anna Swenson Norstrom. The father is now treasurer of the Swedish American Insurance Co. of Lindsborg.

John is the second son in a family of twelve children, eight of whom are living. He worked on the farm as a boy at the same time attending the public school in Lindsborg, subsequently completing a course in the commercial department of Bethany College.

Removing to Chicago in January 1896, he found employment with the Strowger Automatic Telephone Co. and rose to the position of sub-foreman in the electrical department. He was then engaged by the National Automatic Telephone Co. to install automatic exchanges and act as salesman. The firm next put him in charge of the electrical department and later made him superintendent. In this capacity he made several improvements in the telephone system. In Dec., 1900, the Globe Automatic Telephone Co. was organized with Mr. Norstrom as vice president, director and electrical engineer. He continued making improvements in the apparatus, protecting them by patents.

Having made a close study of the demerits of the then existing automatic telephones, he saw room for still further improvement and, resigning his position, he became the president of the Automatic Telephone Co. with works at 103-109 E. Randolph st., in Feb., 1903. Mr. Norstrom's genius has evolved a complete central energy automatic telephone exchange system. It is patented and the apparatus is now manufactured by the firm.

Mr. Norstrom was married in December, 1892, to Lydia E. Lundquist, daughter of a pioneer farmer, N. P. Lundquist and his wife, Carolina. They have a daughter, Frances. The family belongs to the Swedish Lutheran Church.

FRANK LONN

was born Nov. 3, 1843, in Lannaskede parish, Småland, Sweden.



FRANK LONN

His educational advantages were limited to the common schools. In 1868, when twenty-five years of age, he left for the United States.

Mr. Lonn has held the position of superintendent of the postal station at Hegewisch, Chicago, for several years. He has always been a Republican and has taken an active part in politics.

Mr. Lonn is a Lutheran, and

is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

GUSTAF LINDELL

was born in Sweden Nov. 9, 1864. His parents were Lars and Maria



GUSTAF LINDELL

Larson, who lived in Sunne parish, Vermland. The son attended the high school founded by Anders Fryxell, the famous Swedish historian, and as a boy he once took a prize of five crowns, given by Professor Fryxell, an occasion he cherishes as the proudest moment in his life. Gustaf helped his father on the farm until 1885, when he went to Stockholm and learned the trade of carpenter and joiner. In 1887 he emigrated to America, landing on our shores May 5. Proceeding at once to Chicago, he there secured employment in his trade. After three years he got his first contract for the erection of a building. Before it was completed, he had secured two more contracts. Since then he has erected many private residences and a number of public buildings and club houses, among the latter the Saddle and Cycle Club house in Edgewater and the Exmore Golf Club house in Highland Park.

Mr. Lindell has been recording secretary of the Iduna Society and is a member of the Carpenters' and Builders' Association.

In 1897 Mr. Lindell was married to Miss Emma Maria Olson. They have a daughter living, their first child, a son, having died at a tender age.

AARON W. ANDERSON

was born at Rydaholm, Småland, Sweden, July 3, 1877. He emi-



AARON W. ANDERSON

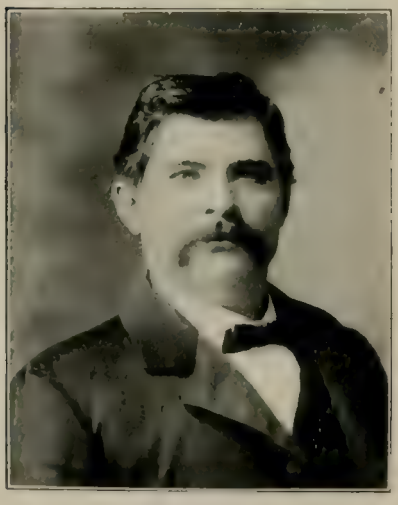
grated to America in 1893, locating in Chicago. He started in the grocery business when but a young man, and has now a prosperous grocery and meat market

at 2875 N. Robey st., Ravenswood.

He married Miss Signe Anderson, born in Chicago May 15, 1879, and their union has been blessed with two children, Parkman Russell and Morris Aaron.

WILHELM EKENBORG

was born April 2, 1850, in the city of Ronneby, Sweden. He



WILHELM EKENBORG

learned the carriage maker's trade from his father. Emigrating in 1870 to America, he first settled in California. After two years he moved to Chicago. He started in business for himself as carriage-maker in 1882, at 1401-3 North Clark st., where he is still located.

In 1875 Mr. Ekenborg was married to Miss Mathilda Wennerholm. They have had four sons, of whom three are still living. They are engaged in business with their father. The family belongs to the St. Ansgarius Swedish Episcopal Church. Ekenborg is a member of the First Swedish Lodge, I. O. O. F., and of the Verdandi Lodge of the Svithiod order.

ANDREW THELANDER

was born July 26, 1847, in Bredaryd parish, Småland, Sweden. He emigrated to America in 1869. For the first two years he traveled through various parts of the country and afterwards made his home in Chicago.

He joined the Immanuel Swedish Lutheran Church in 1870. For many years he has been a member of its Board of Trustees, and in latter years was treasurer of the board.

In 1874 he entered the employ of the firm Braun & Fitts, butterine manufacturers, and was for many years salesman and collector for this firm.



ANDREW THELANDER

When in 1904 the firm split and Mr. Braun established his own

factory at 75-77 W. Monroe st., under the name of Geo. P. Braun Co., Mr. Thelander followed and continues in his employ to the present time.

In 1872 Mr. Thelander was married to Maria L. Erickson from Ullened parish, province of Vestergötland, Sweden. Nine children have been born to the couple, of whom one son and four daughters are still living. The son, Theo. A. Thelander, is a jeweler at 1739 North Clark st., Lake View.

JOHANNES ANDERSON

was born in Edsvära parish, Vestergötland, Sweden. At an early



JOHANNES ANDERSON

age he went to Stockholm and began as an apprentice in the wood-carving trade. For a number of years he attended the Technological School of Stockholm. In 1883 he went to Hamburg, Germany, and during the following three years visited the cities of Cologne, Mainz, Stuttgart, Strassburg, and other places in Germany and Switzerland. In 1885 he went from Zurich to Paris, remaining there until 1889, when he returned to Sweden. Coming to this country in 1892, he located in Erie, Pa., and later in Rockford, Ill. He came to Chicago in 1894 and secured a position with Joseph Dux, the well-known architectural sculptor, under whom he has worked ever since as molder and designer. Mr. Anderson's work adorns many of Chicagos finest club houses, depots, commercial houses and residences.

LOUIS A. LEVIN

was born in Öknaby, Gellersta parish, Örebro län, Sweden, Dec. 12, 1842. He arrived in America June 7, 1868. Proceeding to Chicago



LOUIS A. LEVIN

he took up his permanent residence here, and after some years engaged in the wholesale tea and coffee

trade, which he has followed uninterruptedly for twenty-eight years.

Mr. Levin has never married.

JOHN E. ERICSON,

civil engineer, was born in Upland, Sweden, Oct. 21, 1858, his father,



JOHN ERNST ERICSON

Anders Ericson, owning an estate, known as Lockstaholm. His father died in 1894, but his mother still survives. He received a common school and collegiate education at Norrtelje and Upsala, graduating from the Royal Polytechnic Institute, Stockholm, in 1880. Soon after he was appointed assistant engineer of the Vasa Bridge, Stockholm, which position he retained for one year, until emigrating to America in June, 1881. Arriving here, he was made resident engineer of the Toledo, Cincinnati and St. Louis Railroad, and the following year accepted a position as bridge designer with Hopkins & Co. of St. Louis. From the fall of 1882 to the spring of 1884 he was assistant engineer for the U. S. government on the Illinois and Mississippi canal investigation. In the last named year he was employed by the city of Chicago as draughtsman, which position he filled with such ability that he was in 1886 promoted to become assistant engineer. In 1893 he was again promoted to the position of principal assistant city engineer, followed four years later, July 6, 1897, by his advance to the position of city engineer. In 1903 he was made a member of the Board of Public Improvements. This position, although an important one, became irksome to Mr. Ericson because of its comparative inactivity. He therefore applied for his old post of city engineer and was reappointed to this office under the civil service rules.

During Mr. Ericson's employment by the city of Chicago he has superintended the construction of many important public works in the city and elsewhere. He was in local charge of the Lake View, North Shore and Sixty-eighth street tunnels. He was also assistant chief engineer for the location and design of the new water works at Seattle, Wash. During his service as assistant city engineer Mr. Ericson was in charge of all tunnel and crib construction and made the plans and specifications for twelve miles of new tunnels, together with two new pumping stations, each station to have four twenty-million gallon triple

expansion pumping engines. Mr. Ericson has also overhauled all the engines of the various pumping stations, entailing a vast amount of detail work. All the extensive improvements to the water works system of Chicago have called for engineering and executive ability of the highest order, and Mr. Ericson has amply met the expectations of the citizens as well as of the administration. About 70 per cent. of the Chicago water works system has been designed and constructed under Mr. Ericson's supervision.

As an engineer Mr. Ericson stands in the foremost rank. In all the public positions which he has held he has given eminent satisfaction and many of his works stand as monuments to his engineering skill.

He is a member of the Western Society of Engineers, Chicago Academy of Sciences, American Society of Civil Engineers, American Water Works Association, also of the Chicago Athletic Association and the Swedish Glee Club, being president of the latter for some years, and several Masonic lodges. He has traveled extensively through Sweden, Norway, Germany, Holland, England, Scotland, the United States and the Hawaiian Islands.

Mr. Ericson was married July 11, 1888, to Miss Inez Lydia Malmgren of Chicago, who died in 1893. Three years after, on June 30, 1896, he wedded her sister, Esther Elizabeth Malmgren. They were daughters of the late Anders Fredrik and Lydia Elizabeth Malmgren of Chicago. Mr. Ericson has a daughter, Mildred Inez, born May 10, 1889, of his first wife.

In the exercise of his duties as city engineer of Chicago, Mr. Ericson has prepared a number of special reports printed in pamphlet form, bearing on such topics as the water supply, street railways and the lowering of the tunnels under the Chicago River. He is also the author of several papers on technical subjects, read before various engineering societies.

In 1906 Mr. Ericson was granted a year's vacation with full pay, retaining meanwhile the position of consulting engineer.

In April, 1907, he again assumed full charge as city engineer at the request of the municipal government.

JOHN GOTTFRID CARLSON was born at Böne, Vestergötland, Sweden, Nov. 29, 1835. With a public school education acquired in his native place he emigrated to America in 1852 in company with his parents, his father dying three years after their arrival in Chicago.

As a young man he learned the tailor's trade which he followed for some time. Subsequently he joined the city fire department from which he was retired on a pension at the age limit after forty years' service, including thirty-one years as captain of his brigade. He is one of the charter members of the Immanuel Swedish Luth. Church

and has served in the capacity of deacon for many years back.

March 8, 1873, Mr. Carlson was



JOHN GOTTFRID CARLSON

married to Miss Matilda Johnson of Chicago, born Apr. 17, 1844. Of three children a son and a daughter are living. They are, Albert G., born Dec. 14, 1873, married to Miss Kathryn Mack, and Hildur J., born July 11, 1875, who is now Mrs. Eugene W. Dahl.

MATTHIAS WAHLSTROM

was called to the position of superintendent of Augustana Hospital, from that of president of Gustavus Adolpus College at St. Peter, Minn. where, in the main, his life work has been performed.

He was born in the province of Blekinge, Sweden, Nov. 28. 1851. His parents came to the United States in 1854, first locating in Chicago, and then living for short periods at Geneva, Montgomery, and Aurora, Ill., until 1861, when they settled in West Union, Carver county, Minn. The son attended St. Ansgar's Academy 1869–71, and in the latter year entered Augustana College, at Paxton, Ill., which institution was removed to Rock Island before he graduated, in 1877. Mr. Wahlstrom taught in St. Ansgar's Academy in 1874–75, and acted as parochial school teacher during summer vacations while a student. Having completed the college course, he continued his studies in the theological seminary at Augustana for two years, graduating in 1879 and being ordained minister by the Augustana Synod at its meeting in Chicago in June of the same year.



MATTHIAS WAHLSTROM

July 6, following, he was married to Miss Selma C. Ekstrom of Lindsborg, Kas., and then left for the mission field, laboring among the Indians of the West and Southwest in 1879 and 1880.

meanwhile traveling extensively in Colorado, New Mexico and Indian Territory.

In the fall of 1880, Mr. Wahlstrom accepted a call to teach at Gustavus Adolphus College, at St. Peter, Minn. The following year he was elected president of the institution. For twenty-three years he remained at the head of the institution and saw it grow from a small academy with a single department to a full college, with five departments in all, annually enrolling from 300 to 400 students and graduating 50 to 70 every year.

Augustana College in 1886 conferred on Prof. Wahlstrom the degree of A. M., and in 1894 that of Ph. D. In November, 1901, by order of King Oscar II of Sweden, he was created a knight of the Order of the North Star by the Rt. Rev. Bishop K. H. G. von Schéele of Gotland, Sweden, then on a visit to the United States. Dr. Wahlstrom is a life member of the American Bible Society.

For several years he served as pastor of the Swedish Lutheran churches at Le Sueur and St. Peter, Minn. In 1904 Dr. Wahlstrom resigned the presidency of Gustavus Adolphus College and about the same time he was elected by the Illinois Conference to the position of superintendent and chaplain of Augustana Hospital, and assumed his duties in September of the same year.

Dr. Wahlstrom is a forceful public speaker, and the quarter century he has devoted to school work has given him front rank among Swedish-American educators.

His married life has been blessed with three sons and four daughters, here named in the order of their birth: Hilding Timotheus, Edna Frideborg, deceased, Annette Frideborg, Ruth Eleonor, Edna Constance, Einar Anselm and Maurice Geijer.

FERDINAND ENGELBRECTSON

was born in Göteborg, Sweden, April 27, 1862. In November,



FERDINAND ENGELBRECTSON

1888, he passed a successful examination in surgery before the Royal Medical Department in Stockholm. Discontented with the opportunities open to him in Sweden, he left Göteborg for London in October, 1890. From this place he went to Alexandria, Egypt, and thence back to England. He next

went to New York, arriving in January, 1891, and remained until August, 1893, when he removed to Chicago, where he has been permanently located as practicing masseur ever since that time.

In April, 1901, he married Miss Agnes Bergendorff from Falköping, Sweden. The same year he was appointed clinical demonstrator in massage and medical gymnastics at the Northwestern University Medical School. Mr. Engelbrectson graduated as Doctor of Medicine from Dearborn Medical College in Chicago June 27, 1907.

EMANUEL OSTERHOLM

was born Feb. 27, 1869, in Östra Emtervik, Vermland, Sweden.



EMANUEL OSTERHOLM

His parents were Magnus Osterholm, a carpenter and farmer, and Anna Maria, née Anderson. After leaving the public school, he worked as a farm hand until 1887, when he emigrated to America, destined for Chicago. Here he went to work as a painter, sticking to that trade until 1894, when he opened a paint and wall paper store in partnership with Robert Anderson, under the firm name of Anderson and Osterholm. Contracting for painting and decorating is the principal item in their business. They began by employing five men and now employ about fifty. Their business has increased very extensively.

Outgrowing the quarters in which the firm opened up, they erected a three story store and flat building in 1898, at 1202 W. 59th st. This is their main place of business, but they also conduct a branch store at 3200 N. Clark street.

Mr. Osterholm was choirmaster of the Swedish Mission Church of Englewood for several years. He is now a member of the Swedish Mission Church in Lake View. His brother is Albin N. Österholm of Superior, Wis., who has poetical ability, as shown in a volume of verse, published several years ago.

Mr. Osterholm was on June 20, 1900, married to Hannah Mathilda Swenson, of Chicago, born Jan. 14, 1875. They have a son, Philip Emanuel, born April 1, 1901.

AXEL LUDVIG NYSTROM,

a clergyman in the Mission Church, was born in Kristiania, Norway, July 8, 1872, his parents having come from the Swedish province of Vermland. The family emi-

grated and located on a farm in Grass Lake, Kanabec co., Minn. in 1876. At thirteen he went to



AXEL LUDVIG NYSTROM

West Superior, Wis. and worked there as salesman in a clothing store. In 1892, he entered the Ev. Mission Covenant Theological Seminary and completed his studies for the ministry at North Park College in the spring of 1895. He afterward took a special course at Knox College and also studied for some time at Bethany College, Lindsborg, Kans. In 1895 he was given his first pastoral charge, that of the Swedish Mission Church at West Burlington, Iowa. In December, 1900, he accepted a call from the Swedish Congregational Church in Cleveland, Ohio. In 1901, the Rev. Mr. Nyström came to Chicago and assumed the pastorate of the Swedish Mission Church in Englewood, and is still retaining that charge. He is married to Miss Mollin Miller of Burlington, Iowa, and resides at 5849 Carpenter st.

KARL H. ELMSTRÖM,

minister in the Swedish Methodist Episcopal Church, was born Aug. 20, 1850, in the city of Karlskrona, Sweden. While attending the collegiate school there, he came under the influence of Methodism through Rev. Sörlin, and after his graduation felt prompted to devote himself to the ministry in that church. The opposition of his parents, however, forced him to abandon this plan. Instead he entered Fjellstedt Theological



KARL H. ELMSTRÖM]

Seminary in Upsala with the intention of becoming a Lutheran pastor. During his three years' stay here he had the permission of Archbishop Sundberg to preach in four different churches of the archbishopric. At the end of this period he again, in 1872, came

in close touch with the Methodists in Stockholm, and after having had conversations with several of the older ministers, whose acquaintance he had formed in Karlskrona, he resolved to join the Methodist Church. He was ordained in 1875 as deacon and in 1877 as elder. In Sweden he labored in the ministry for about ten years, having charge, successively, of the Methodist congregations in Örebro, Halsberg, Göteborg, Upsala, Jönköping and Stockholm.

In 1882 the Rev. Mr. Elmström emigrated to America, where his first charge was at Beaver, Ill. Next his charges were on the west side in Chicago for three years, in Minneapolis for three years and again on the west side in Chicago for three years, on the north side for three years, and finally for two years in Jamestown, N. Y. From Oct. 1, 1898, until 1903 he was editor of *Sändebudet*, resigning to assume the pastorate of the First Swedish M. E. Church of Chicago.

The Rev. Mr. Elmström married Miss Jennie Fröberg of Stockholm, Sweden, in 1873. Of their four children, two daughters survive.

GUSTAF C. BROBERG,

general steamship agent, was born in the city of Nyköping, Sweden, Oct. 20, 1858. As a boy, he was sent to a relative in Stockholm to study. He was restless, however, and soon hired out as a member of the crew of a sailing vessel, bound for England. For several years he led the life of a young tar, visiting many parts of the world.

In 1877, having concluded to become a landlubber, he embarked



GUSTAF CASPER BROBERG

for New York City, going from there to Buffalo and later to Chicago. Mr. Broberg here became a sub-agent for a railroad, and in that capacity secured much of the immigration business for his road. After gaining experience he established a steamship and railroad ticket agency, making a specialty of the passenger traffic to and from Sweden, Norway, Denmark and Finland. His office is in his own building, 67 E. Kinzie st.

In 1890 Mr. Broberg started publishing *Humoristen*, a comic weekly, the successive editors of which were Ville Åkerberg, Oliver Linder, Ernst Lindblom and Gustaf Wicklund. In 1899 the paper was changed to a weekly general newspaper, entitled *Svenska Nyheter*. It grew from a smaller size to a 7 col-

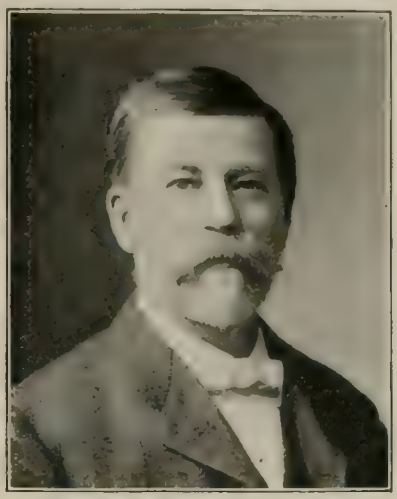
umn, 12 page paper, and then to 16 pages. In July, 1906, *Svenska Nyheter* and *Svenska Tribunen*, a similar newspaper, were consolidated and are now published under the hyphenated name of *Svenska Tribunen-Nyheter*. Early in 1907 Mr. Broberg sold his interest in the newspaper, and now devotes himself to his ticket agency.

Mr. Broberg was married in 1884 to Miss Bertha Gloor, with whom he has a daughter, thirteen years old. The family residence is at 1152 Sheridan road.

Mr. Broberg is a member of the Swedish Glee Club, Svithiod Lodge No. 1, King Oscar Lodge A. F. & A. M., Lincoln Park Chapter of St. Bernard Commandery and of Medinah Temple. At the World's Fair in Chicago Mr. Broberg was corresponding secretary of the Scandinavian Auxiliary Committee.

JOHN MARTENSON,

publisher of the weekly religious newspaper, *Chicago-Bladet*, is the son of Abraham Martenson, a laborer of Jönköping, Sweden, and his wife, Charlotta Falk. He was born in that city March 25, 1850. After attending common school for two or three years the boy worked for an upholsterer until ten years of age when he got a job as errand boy in a printing shop in his home town, and worked at the type case there and in Stockholm for the next six years, or until he emigrated in 1867. He went as far west as his money would take him, stopping at Grand Rapids, Mich., where he got work in a sawmill. He was variously employed in shingle and lumber mills, and at log cutting



JOHN MARTENSON

and log driving until 1869, when, after a trip down the Mississippi on a lumber raft, he passed through Chicago and decided to take up his old trade in that city. He worked as compositor on the Swedish newspaper *Hemlandet* up to 1874, when he took the position of foreman in the printing office of *Svenska Amerikanaren*, another Swedish newspaper, continuing there until the latter part of 1876. In February, the following year, Mr. Martenson started *Chicago-Bladet* and has been its publisher up to the present time.

Mr. Martenson comes from a pious family, which for two generations had been identified with the revivalists known as Readers. His father was one of the first of these in Jönköping. Mr. Martenson's maternal grandfather, Abram

Falk, was a farmer-poet, who wrote many religious songs, including the well-known hymn beginning, "Öppet står Jesu förbarmande hjärta." Mr. Martenson's activity as editor and publisher has received its character from the early influences of his home. His paper, while independent, is generally accepted as the organ of the Free Mission Church. He is also the publisher of *Columba*, a fortnightly paper for juvenile readers.

Mr. Martenson is a member of the Oak Street Swedish Mission Church, of which he has served as trustee and treasurer for about twenty-five years. He ranks as one of the leaders of that group of believers denominated as Free Mission Friends and was in fact one of the fathers of this movement.

Mr. Martenson was married Sept. 27, 1871, to Sarah Anderson, a daughter of Anders and Christina Jonsson, born in Rydaholm, Sweden, June 2, 1854. Of four children born to them two died in early years. The survivors, John Victor and Alma Emilia, are both married.

The Martenson family resides at 1540 Aldine ave., and the office of *Chicago-Bladet* is at 205 Oak st.

FRANK W. ISBERG

is a native of Chicago. Born in this city April 8, 1871, he was educated in its public schools. After reaching mature years, he became superintendent for H. C. Tillinghast & Co., manufacturers of cut leather. In 1902, Mr. Isberg bought out his employers' interests. As far



FRANK W. ISBERG

as he knows, he is the only Swede by birth or descent in the West engaged in this line of business. The firm is styled F. W. Isberg & Co., and its place of business is at 193 Lake st.

Mr. Isberg is a member of the Swedish Lutheran Church.

CARL F. BRUSÉN

was born July 22, 1871, in Hallingeberg parish, Småland, Sweden. He learned the tailor's trade from his father at home. Coming to America and locating in Chicago, he worked for various tailoring establishments and learned also the art of cutting. Thus equipped, he started in business for himself as a merchant tailor in 1897, at 1643 N. Clark st., his present location.

Mr. Brusén was married in 1900 to Miss Constance Johanson. He is a member of several Swedish



CARL FREDRIK BRUSÉN

societies and has served as president of the Orpheus Singing Club.

CLAES FLODIN,

manufacturer, was born in Jönköping, Sweden, July 6, 1848. His parents were Carl Flodin, superintendent of the Barnängen Manufacturing Company's works at Stockholm, and Lovisa Svenson Flodin. The son attended public and private school. In 1872 he left home for America, arriving July 2. He proceeded to Chicago, where he worked at the metal trades. For upwards of twenty-five years he has been junior member of the firm of Goetz & Flodin, 133 W. Chicago ave., manufacturers of copper and sheet iron tanks.

Mr. Flodin was for eighteen years president of the First Swedish Building and Loan Association. He belongs to the Swedish Ev. Lutheran Mission Church in Lake View and has been a trustee of the North Side Mission Church.

Mr. Flodin is married to Emma O. Larson, daughter of A. Larson, a coppersmith, and Anna Larson from Sätersfors, Habo parish, Vestergötland, Sweden. Mr. and Mrs. Flodin's children are eight in number, Hilma C., Benjamin A., Rudolph A., Agnes O., Ida E., Harald L., Arnold and Elmer E. Flodin.



CLAES FLODIN

CHARLES E. SPAAK

was born Oct. 21, 1865, in Elfsborgs län, Sweden. His father, Pehr Henric Spaak, was well-known in the province. The early instruction given Charles Spaak was private, but at twelve years of age he entered the Jönköping collegiate school. From there he went to Örebro and studied at the

Technical Institute at that place. Upon his graduation in 1885 he immediately left for the United



CHARLES ERIK SPAAK

States. Here he became engaged as draughtsman in 1885–1886 at the headquarters of the U. S. Government Engineering Corps in Chicago. From 1886–87 he assisted in the preliminary work for the Chicago drainage canal and from 1887–88 he was assistant engineer during the laying of the cable system in St. Louis, Mo. In 1888–89 he held a position as inspector and draughtsman for the U. S. Government Engineering Corps. After working for one year in this capacity he accepted the position of assistant city engineer in Seattle, Wash., from which he soon resigned to become assistant engineer for the Great Northern Railway. April 1, 1892, he returned to Chicago as assistant engineer with the Indiana Natural Gas and Oil Co. This position he held until in 1898 he became chief engineer with the same company, his present position.

Mr. Spaak was married to Miss Anna Gerda Hessler July 5, 1894. Their two sons are Carl Per Harald, born Aug. 15, 1897, and Gilbert Henric, born April 11, 1899.

CHARLES RUDOLPH NELSON

was born in Ulricehamn, Sweden, January 26, 1859. His father was John Nelson, a cabinet maker. His mother's maiden name was Matilda Hedlund.

The family emigrated to this country in 1865 and proceeded to Chicago. In common with so many others they were burned out in the fire of 1871. Charles attended the public school until



CHARLES RUDOLPH NELSON

1875 when he started to learn the printer's trade which he continued until 1883. After a few more years of experience in business he became in 1888, head of the sales department of the Ames and Frost

Co. For ten years he remained with the house, afterward assuming management of the Tengwall File and Ledger Co., in Ravenswood. In 1903 Mr. Nelson was attracted to St. Louis where he was, until 1906, vice president and general superintendent of Lieber & Trussell Co. Mr. Nelson is now president of the Nelson Corporation, 231 Monroe st., where loose-leaf devices are manufactured. He has invented no less than 26 loose-leaf devices, a paper punching machine and a rattan splitting machine. Some of these devices are used by the U. S. government. His business has taken him to nearly all the larger cities of the United States and Canada.

Mr. Nelson is one of the early settlers of Ravenswood, having moved there when there were truck farms all around his home. From that time he has been identified with its rapid improvement and advance. He is president of the Republican precinct club and belongs to Royal League, Royal Arcanum, Knights of Pythias, Odd Fellows, National Union, Ravenswood Blue Lodge, A. F. and A. M. Columbia Chapter, St. Bernard Commandery, Medinah Shrine, Prince of Chaldeans, and to the Chicago Athletic Club.

Mr. Nelson was married July 22, 1882, to Viola May Newell, born in Chicago, May 27, 1861, her parents being Samuel B. and Margaret Newell. To Mr. and Mrs. Nelson have been born, Clarence Richard, in 1883; Lulu Irene, in 1884; Ethel May in 1886; Marshall Burr, in 1887; Wilbur Alvord, in 1892; Ruth Eleanor, in 1901, and Florence Helen in 1904. The family resides at 2881 N. Paulina st., and belongs to Ravenswood M. E. Church. Mr. Nelson has been a member of the official board of the church and the chorister of the Sunday school for many years.

HENRY S. HENSCHEN

was born July 29, 1873, in Brooklyn, N. Y., attended public schools



HENRY SAMUEL HENSCHEN

in Evanston, Ill., and Jamestown, N. Y., and removed in 1885 to Sweden with his parents. After attending school two years in Stockholm and two years in Upsala, he returned to the United States in 1889.

The same year he entered the employ of Haugan and Lindgren, bankers, Chicago, and has ever since been connected with the institution, now known as State

Bank of Chicago. In 1898 he was made manager of the Bond and Foreign Exchange Department and in 1901 promoted to Assistant Cashier.

From 1893 to 1896 he attended evening classes in the Chicago College of Law, was admitted to the Illinois bar in 1895 and in 1898 received the degree of Bachelor of Laws.

He has at times filled the position of Acting Vice Consul for Sweden in Chicago.

Mr. Henschen was married in 1898, to Miss Edith M. C. Mountain and has one son. His home is at 728 Pine Grove ave.

Mr. Henschen is a member of the Union League Club and the Bankers' Club and of Grace M. E. Church.

NELS NELSON

is an insurance man, well known to Swedish-Americans in general from his connection with the Scandinavian Mutual Aid Association of Galesburg, Ill., as its secretary for a period of nineteen years.

He was born in Weinge parish, Halland, Sweden, July 13, 1840, the son of Nils Bengtson, a farmer and carpenter, and his wife, Johanna Johansson. His parents with four children emigrated to America in 1854, but owing to insufficient means, Nels was left behind with friends. The family arrived in Chicago during the cholera epidemic of 1854, and the father and one son died from that disease soon after. In 1856 Nels left Sweden, coming to this country in July and settling at Galesburg. There young Nelson attended the public schools, worked for



NELS NELSON

farmers in that locality, and for the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy R. R. Company, also serving a short apprenticeship with a cabinetmaker, until 1861. That year he volunteered for service in the Union army, served four and a half years and in March, 1865, was promoted for meritorious service to the rank of first lieutenant. Mr. Nelson was a member of Company C, 43d Illinois Volunteers, which company was made up of Swedes. He began service as a sergeant of the company.

At the close of the war Mr. Nelson went into business in Galesburg. In 1871 he was elected city treasurer and served in that capacity for five years, being re-elected each year up to 1875 inclusive. He now devoted himself to his private business until 1883, when

he was elected secretary of the Scandinavian Mutual Aid Association, a life insurance company on the assessment plan, a position held by him until 1902. When the business of the Association was by a vote of the necessary majority of its members transferred to the Scandia Mutual Life Insurance Company of Chicago, also an assessment organization, on the 29th day of August, 1902, Mr. Nelson severed his connection with the association and remained in Galesburg.

The following spring he was again elected treasurer of the city for a term of two years. At the expiration of the term in April, 1905, the Scandia Mutual Life was reorganized on the legal reserve basis and placed on a perfectly sound footing. Then, upon the invitation of the management of the company, now the Scandia Life Insurance Company, Mr. Nelson went to Chicago to assist in the management of its affairs at the head office, where he is now engaged.

In 1868 Mr. Nelson was married to Miss Sarah Nelson of Galesburg, daughter of Nils Pålsson. She died Dec. 7, 1898. The issue of their union was two children, Arthur Ulrich, born July 29, 1869, and Edmund Linnea, who died in infancy. Arthur Nelson is married to Miss Anna E. Westerberg of Galesburg, and resides there.

Mr. Nelson is a member of the Swedish Lutheran Church at Galesburg, and served for fourteen consecutive years on the board of trustees and was its treasurer. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic.

While living in Galesburg, Mr. Nelson served the city in many other capacities besides that of city treasurer. He was a member of the Board of Supervisors for 15 years, of the Board of Education for 4 years and of the Public Library Board for 7 years.

CARL VALLENTIN

was born at Fredriksberg, in the province of Småland, Sweden,



CARL VALLENTIN

May 10, 1858. He came to this country with his parents in 1870 and settled in Moline, Ill. For a few years he followed his father's trade as a blacksmith and worked for the Moline Plow Co.

His education was obtained at Augustana College. When twenty years of age he began to teach school and continued in this occupation for three years.

When the insurance society known as the Scandinavian Mutual Aid Association of Galesburg was organized, he accepted a position as their general agent and traveled extensively for a number of years.

In 1886 he started a book and music store in Minneapolis, Minn. While in this business he published a journal, called *Hemmet*, and a Swedish cookbook.

In 1890 Mr. Vallentin came to Chicago and opened a real estate office, with Mr. Charles Berg as a partner.

When the Svea Building and Loan Association of Chicago was organized, he was one of the promoters and officiated as vice-president and treasurer until the spring of 1896.

In June of that year he went to Europe, making a tour of Sweden, Denmark, Germany, France and England.

In 1897 he became a member of the firm known as the Svea Land Colony, which for the last decade has been engaged in colonizing and developing Silverhill, Alabama. Mr. Vallentin more recently interested himself in a gold mining enterprise, known as the Telma Gold Mining Co., and is identified with other financial enterprises.

Mr. Vallentin is a member of the Swedish Lutheran Church in Englewood, where he has resided for some twelve years.

CHARLES J. DAHLQUIST

was born June 13, 1862, in Kinneved parish, Vestergötland, Swe-



CHARLES J. DAHLQUIST

den. He was educated in the public schools of his native land. Oct. 12, 1881, he came to America and took up his abode in Chicago. Mr. Dahlquist is a shoe dealer, having started in business with a Mr. Swanson in 1895, in Englewood. The firm is now Burkdahl & Dahlquist, located at 511 W. 63d st.

His wife is Maria Dahlquist, née Borg, and their children are: Ellen, Carl, Martin and Juliet.

Mr. Dahlquist is a member of the Salem Swedish Lutheran congregation in Chicago, where he has been a Sunday school teacher for many years.

CHARLES E. SCHLYTERN,

president of the Union Bank of Chicago, was born in Svartlå,

Öfver Luleå parish, Sweden, Jan. 17, 1853, the son of C. O. Schlytern, a large manufacturer, and



CHARLES E. SCHLYTERN

his wife Anna, née Sjöding. During the years 1862–1871, he attended the collegiate schools at Luleå and Umeå. Shortly after graduating, in 1871, he went to the United States, spending the next two years in Iowa, Nebraska, Illinois, working as wood-cutter, a farm hand and railroad laborer and doing whatever work was offered. Subsequently he located in Chicago. Until 1879 he was employed in various offices in the city; after that time he was for ten years chief clerk in the Johnson Chair Co's. factory, and subsequently for twelve years, 1889–1901, cashier of the Milwaukee ave. State Bank.

In August, 1901, he engaged in the real estate and mortgage loan business at 825 Milwaukee ave., in partnership with John A. Prebis. When, in 1905, the Union Bank of Chicago was organized by a number of Swedes and Norwegians of Chicago, Mr. Schlytern was elected president of the bank. This institution which is a state bank, was capitalized at $200,000, with a reserve fund of $25,000, and began business May 1, 1905. At the end of the month the deposits were $108,565.63. In two years, May 1, 1907, they had increased to $648,458.

Mr. Schlytern was married in 1889, to Edith G. Isbell, of American parentage. They have one child, a son. Mr. Schlytern is a Republican in politics.

SVEN P. SWANSON

was born in Hinneryd, Småland, Sweden, March 3, 1853. He emi-



SVEN P. SWANSON

grated to America in 1872, locating first in Chicago, then in Minneapolis, and later on in Chicago again. He is a cutter by trade

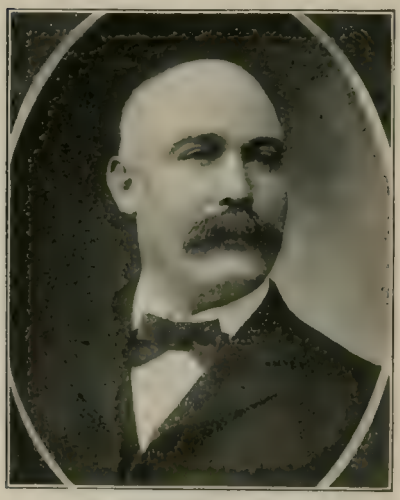
and at present connected with Barret R. Hall.

Mr. Swenson is a member of the Illinois Encampment No. 2, First Swedish Lodge of I. O. O. F., K. P. and King Oscar Lodge of Free Masons.

He was married to Sophie Lundquist Jan. 14, 1884, and has a son, Earl Grover.

P. AXEL BLOMFELDT

was born at Eknö estate, Björkskog parish, Vestmanland, Sweden,



P. AXEL BLOMFELDT

April 10, 1858. Having finished in the common school, he entered at fifteen years of age as an apprentice in the works of the Köping Manufacturing Company. Four years later he left and was employed in a similar plant at Ljusne for three years. A desire to seek his fortune in the New World had been steadily growing with him, and at twenty-three he bade farewell to his fatherland. He arrived in Chicago May 2, 1881. Immediately after his arrival he secured employment at his trade as a mechanic, and for fifteen years occupied his time in constantly improving his mechanical skill and acquiring American methods.

In 1896 Mr. Blomfeldt formed a partnership with another skilled Swedish-American mechanic, Mr. O. Rapp, for the purpose of manufacturing dies, tools and other machinery specialties, and they began business under the firm name of Blomfeldt & Rapp, at 34 Market st. Besides having a large trade in the United States, the firm has made considerable shipments to Canada, Central and South America, Japan, and even to England and Germany. Their shop is now at 39 W. Randolph st.

Aside from his reputation as a business man, Mr. Blomfeldt is well known for his public spirit, his liberality and his interest in patriotic and social organizations. The fraternal order of Svithiod owes its present standing and prosperous condition largely to Mr. Blomfeldt's enthusiastic leadership and skillful management. Being one of the first members of Svithiod Lodge No. 1, he promoted the branching-out process and joined Verdandi Lodge No. 3 at its organization in 1890. When in July, 1893, all the Svithiod lodges were organized into a grand lodge, Mr. Blomfeldt was almost unanimously chosen its first Grand Master. A few years later the treasurership of the order was en-

trusted to him, and during his services in this capacity more than $200,000 have passed through his hands, all of which has been handled and accounted for in the most business-like manner.

He is a member of the Svithiod Singing Club.

Mr. Blomfeldt and Miss Emily Samuelson were married Sept. 21, 1895, and their union has been blessed with one child. The Blomfeldt residence is at 3990 Perry st., Rogers Park.

FRANK ROSENGREN

was born Dec. 17, 1846, in Stockholm, Sweden. Having studied



FRANK ROSENGREN

in the naval school in Stockholm, he emigrated to America in 1866, stopping in Chicago, where he has resided ever since.

Mr. Rosengren was connected with the Gormully & Jeffery Manufacturing Co. for over twenty-two years. He is at present associated with George T. and F. W. Rosengren and Chas. W. Nelson in the manufacturing business, under the name of the Enterprise Tool and Metal Works, incorporated, at 141 S. Clinton st.

Mr. Rosengren was married in 1870, and has five children, mostly married. He is one of the oldest Swedish Odd Fellows in Chicago, having joined the order in 1868.

FRANK G. GUSTAFSON

was born in Sköfde parish, province of Vestergötland, Sweden,



FRANK G. GUSTAFSON

on Nov. 8, 1863. His father was Gustaf Anderson, who by industry and thrift had risen from hired hand through the intermediate stage of foreman to owner of a farm. His son Frank who was one of a family of eight children, spent his early years on the farm, attending school at intervals. At the age of seventeen years he went to Stockholm and worked at the

mason's trade. For a time he attended Tekniska Skolan and Byggnadsyrkesskolan in order to learn the theoretical side of mason construction and general architecture. He continued there, working as a mason until 1887 when he came over to Chicago, obtaining employment at his trade. As soon as he had the language sufficiently at his command he attended an evening technical school, further improving his theoretical knowledge of building construction. After a few years' experience he became a builder and contractor. As such he has erected a number of the most modern structures in the city, aiding materially in the upbuilding of residential Chicago.

Mr. Gustafson has a tenor voice which in the upper register is sweet, clear, and powerful withal. This has made him a much sought for member of male choruses in Stockholm and in Chicago. For a number of years he has been an active member of the Swedish Glee Club, and has acted as director and vice-president of the club. In 1897 he took part in the concert-tour to Sweden, made by the American Union of Swedish Singers. He belongs to the Builders' and Masons' Association. In 1893 Mr. Gustafson was married to Miss Maria Svenson. They reside at 735 51st st., Chicago.

CHARLES G. CHINLUND

was born Sept. 4, 1849, in Kinnared, Hössna parish, Elfsborgs län. His parents were Anders Johan Larson, and Johanna Johansdotter who both lived on the farm until their respective deaths,



CHARLES GUSTAF CHINLUND

the former passing away in 1888. Gustaf, as he was then called, attended the public school until he was confirmed in 1864. In 1871 he emigrated to America, landing at Boston, and came direct to Chicago. He arrived Oct. 18, one week after the Chicago fire. Employment was secured at once in clearing away the ruins. For a year he was engaged in the building trade. In 1874 he was engaged by Engberg and Holmberg as a salesman of Swedish publications. He has since remained with this firm except during 1889-1891 when he was a stockholder in the Concordia Publishing Co., and manager for the Framåt Pub. Co.

Mr. Chinlund was a member of the Immanuel Church from 1874 until 1885. He served six years

as collector and from 1883 to 1885 as deacon. In 1884 Mr. Chinlund secured a home in Baxter st., now Osgood st. This resulted in his joining the Trinity Church, where he was a deacon for nine years and Sunday school superintendent for seven years. Mr. Chinlund has been a member of the Messiah English Lutheran Church since its organization in 1896, and has been a deacon during this period. In 1871 Mr. Chinlund was married to Wilhelmina C. O. Nelson, born April 24, 1851, in Böne parish, Elfsborgs län, Sweden. They have five sons and five daughters, viz.: Emil Gottfrid, born 1872 (now pastor in Lincoln, Neb., and married to Alma Swenson of Chicago); Ellen Theresia, born 1876 (married to Dr. John N. Sandblom, dean of the dental department, New Technical Institute of Christiania); Carl Theodore, born 1878, (employed with Gage Bros., millinery); Victor Immanuel, born 1880 (married to Elsa Bergman of Chicago); Anna Wilhelmina, born 1883 (graduate of Columbia School of Music, teacher of piano); Edith Josefina, born 1884; Joseph Ferdinand, born 1886; Ruth Eveline, born 1888; Edwin Fridolf, born 1890; Mildred Augusta, born 1892.

WILLIAM R. ANDERSON

was born in Chicago Nov. 1, 1875, and attended public schools and high school until 1890. For several years he devoted himself to business. He soon, however, began studying law, and graduated from Chicago College of Law after taking a three years' course,



WILLIAM R. ANDERSON

receiving the degree of LL. B. Shortly thereafter he took the state examination for admission to the bar and received his license to practice in 1899.

Since that time he has been associated with his brother, G. Bernhard Anderson, in the practice of law, the firm being known as Anderson and Anderson, with offices at 100 Washington st.

ANDREW SWANSON

was born in the city of Malmö, Sweden, April 30, 1853. After attending the public school, he learned the mason's trade. In 1880 he emigrated to this country, with Chicago as his destination. He was superintendent for several large contracting firms for a num-

ber of years. By 1891 he had saved a sufficient capital to start operations on his own account.



ANDREW SWANSON

Among the large buildings he has erected may be mentioned the Augustana Hospital, partially built in 1892–93 at a cost of $85,000, and completed in 1905 by means of an annex costing about $100,000 and doubling the capacity of the institution.

In 1878 he was married to Matilda Nelson from Ronneby, Sweden. Their only child, Elizabeth, in June, 1906, married Dr. Aaron M. Olson.

Mr. Swanson is a member of the Immanuel Swedish Lutheran Church, and also of the Masons' and Builders' Association of Chicago.

LARS E. FREDRIKSON

was born June 24, 1877, in Lockne parish, Jemtland, Sweden. At thirteen years of age he became apprenticed to a painter and decorator, a trade for which he showed so much aptitude that the parish authorities granted him a stipend to visit the Exhibition of Stockholm in 1897. In 1901 he came to America and Chicago. During his first year in this country he painted an altar piece for the Swedish Lutheran church in Port Wing, Wis., the painting being a copy of an old masterpiece, representing Christ and the Samaritan woman at Jacob's well. Mr. Fredrikson has also done the interior decoration in the church



LARS EMANUEL FREDRIKSON

in Brainerd, Minn., where he now resides.

Among his original paintings are a number of well-executed landscapes. Mr. Fredrikson's work so far gives promise of still greater results in the future. He is a member of the Lutheran Church.

NEANDER N. CRONHOLM,

counselor at law, is the descendant of an old prominent family



NEANDER N. CRONHOLM

in Sweden, and was born in Nov. 19, 1843. His ancestors held large possessions in Finland, Livonia and other trans-Baltic provinces during the period of Sweden's greatness, but his grandfather, George Cronholm, who was one of the truly loyal Swedes in the wars with Russia in the latter part of the eighteenth and the beginning of the nineteenth centuries, lost everything on account of his fidelity to his fatherland when Sweden lost Finland and other trans-Baltic possessions. Having sacrified all his property for his country, notwithstanding that Russia held out to him the most glittering inducements to become a Russian subject, he proved that his love and his loyalty to his fatherland were dearer to him than the most dazzling imperial favors. His estates were confiscated, plundered or destroyed. Everything was swept away save his loyalty, courage and honor.

The subject of this sketch was the eldest son of his father's family. He was carefully educated, particularly in military tactics and civil engineering, advanced rapidly, and the future looked bright and hopeful. When the great Civil War broke out between the North and the South, he desired to become identified with it; but owing to the responsible position occupied by him at that time, he was unable to secure leave of absence, and hence did not come to America until the spring of 1867.

Upon his arrival in America, he traveled all over the country and was much impressed with its greatness and with the many opportunities offered to win an exalted position in business and social life. He determined to remain, and accordingly renounced allegiance to Sweden, and in 1869 entered Pennsylvania College at Gettysburg, from which institution he graduated with distinction, obtaining the degree of Master of Arts in 1873. He then entered the law and postgraduate departments of Yale University, and in July, 1875, received the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. He was a classmate of the late President Harper of the University of Chicago. He also studied law in the University of New York, and received therefrom the degree of LL. B. In 1875 and 1876 he traveled

extensively, visiting Russia, Germany, Austria, France and part of Asia and Africa. He remained for some time at Florence and Rome.

Mr. Cronholm began his practice at the New York bar, being with the firm of Brewster, Miller, Peet and Opdyke, but in January, 1878, removed to Chicago, where he has since practiced his profession with success. On several occasions he has presided at the great Swedish anniversaries. He is of liberal opinions, a lover and and patron of learning and athletics, and has encouraged the introduction of Swedish gymnastics in America. He is a stanch Republican.

In 1875, when he visited his native country, he was the recipient of special favors from the king and from prominent personages there. While there he was elected a member of the Northern Jurist Association at Stockholm. He is an honorary member of several historical and antiquarian societies, and for several years was engaged on an historical work on Sweden. The result of his literary labors and historical researches was published in 1902, namely, "Cronholm's History of Sweden," in two large 8vo volumes, which historians and critics consider a standard work on Sweden. Cronholm's History of Sweden has found a ready sale among the English speaking people all over the world. Mr. Cronholm is now engaged on two other historical works.

In 1878 he was united in marriage to Culiaelma P. Frazee, of New York City, the descendant of an old colonial family. She bore him one son, Neander W. P., July 24, 1883, who died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Cronholm reside at 3039 Groveland ave.

LARS GUSTAF HALLBERG,

architect, was born at Venersnäs, Vestergötland, Sweden, Sept. 4,



LARS GUSTAF HALLBERG

1844. After attending common school, he enjoyed private instruction fitting him for entry at the Chalmers Institute at Göteborg. After completing the course in civil engineering, he was graduated in 1866, at the age of twenty two. He next entered the Academy of Fine Arts at Stockholm, studying architecture and germane subjects. Returning to Göteborg, he was at once employed by Westerberg, a prominent architect, for some three years. During

that time he planned and superintended the construction of a number of costly buildings at Fimmersta, the country estate of Dickson, a merchant prince of Göteborg.

When, in 1869, the city of Gefle was almost totally destroyed by fire, Mr. Hallberg went there and took an important part in the rebuilding of the city. At this time the city of Göteborg was preparing for the holding of a large agricultural and industrial exposition. The building contracts were given to Architect Westerberg who, needing assistance for the task, engaged Mr. Hallberg at the latter's own figures.

This run of prosperity awakened in Mr. Hallberg a desire of seeing the world and in 1801 he went to England. While there the news of the great Chicago fire was flooded over the world. As soon as it became known that the Chicagoans were determined to rebuild their city at once, on a greater scale, Mr. Hallberg saw his opportunity and came on to Chicago in December, directly from England. From that day to this Mr. Hallberg has resided in this city and to his architectural genius and taste modern Chicago owes much. An enumeration of some of the many structures that have been erected under his hand and eye would give only an inadequate idea of the extent of his activity. Mr. Hallberg's office is at 84 La Salle st.

Mr. Hallberg was united in marriage to Florence Estey in 1881. Four children, two daughters and two sons, have been born to them. The family residence, a home of elegance and refinement, is at Ridge ave. and Greenwood Boulevard in Evanston. Mr. Hallberg has traveled extensively for pleasure and study. The splendid success of the architect has not affected the natural modesty of the man. He is a fellow of the American Institute of Architects and past president of the Illinois Chapter and a member of various clubs and associations.

PETER SJÖHOLM

was born July 10, 1859, in Guddastad, Östra Sallerup, Skåne,



PETER SJÖHOLM

Sweden, where his father owned a farm. Here young Sjöholm attended public school and, after having finished his schooling, assisted his father in tilling the soil

until 1881, he yielded to a desire to emigrate across the Atlantic. Upon his arrival in America he first settled in Sac county, Iowa, were he worked as a farm laborer. Then he rented a farm in Chero kee co., which he cultivated until the spring of 1885, when he went to Chicago and accepted a position in the produce commission market. In 1895 he opened up a business of his own as a dealer in poultry and game, and is so engaged at the present time. His present location is at 190 S. Water st.

June 25, 1898, Mr. Sjöholm was married to Miss Caroline B. Peterson, daughter of Andrew B. and Elva Peterson, af Maynard, Minnesota, and they have one daughter, Lillian Elizabeth, born in 1897. Mr. Sjöholm is a member of the Masonic order and of the First Swedish Baptist Church. For various periods he has served the latter as financial secretary, treasurer and trustee. Mr. Sjöholm has served as a director of the Swedish Baptist Sick Benefit Society.

CHARLES H. BARQUIST

was born in Småland, Sweden, March 10, 1866. At the age of four years he came to this country with his parents, who settled in Chicago. He attended the public schools of this city after which he accepted a position as a dry goods salesman with O. H. Carson. In 1888 he entered the employ of Marshall Field and Co., as salesman in the retail dress goods department, which position he still holds. Mr. Barquist is a member of the Immanuel Swedish Lutheran Church of Chicago.



CHARLES HERMAN BARQUIST

He has taken an active interest in politics for a number of years, being a stanch Republican. Mr. Barquist has held the positions of secretary, vice president and of president of the Swedish Republican Club of the 25th Ward, where he resides and he is a factor in Republican politics in that ward, being precinct captain.

His home is at 1622 Grace st.

JOHN E. ANDERSON

was born in Stockholm, Sweden, Sept. 11, 1860. When eight years of age he emigrated to America with his parents, Sven Johan Anderson and his wife Johanna, née Lenholm, the family locating in Brooklyn, N. Y.

In 1872 the family moved to

Kansas, settling on a farm near Salina. Here his early days were spent in farming and herding



JOHN EMIL ANDERSON

cattle, and subsequently teaching school four years.

After graduating in a business college at Kansas City, Mo., he entered the law office of the prosecuting attorney, where he studied law and was admitted to the bar Feb. 17, 1885. While studying law he contributed many articles to the different newspapers in the West; was correspondent of the Kansas City *Star*, and also represented the Associated Press. He also held several clerical positions in the Kansas legislature and has served as deputy U. S. marshal.

In 1891 he removed to Chicago, where he has since lived, engaged in the practice of law. His office is at 9206 Commercial ave., South Chicago.

He has been an active member of the Swedish Republican club of the Eighth ward, and also of the Linnea, Knights of Pythias, North American Union, Royal Arcanum, Red Men and other societies and orders.

In 1888 he was married to Miss Hilda Ek, a native of Vermland, Sweden, daughter of Bengt and Charlotta Ek. Her father was descended from a line of illustrious warriors in the Napoleonic wars. There are two daughters, in the family, Edith Evangeline, born July 29, 1890, in Salina, Kans., and Mabel Louise, born Feb. 17, 1897, in Chicago.

Mr. Anderson's mother died in 1905, at Salina, Kans., where his father is still living.

JOHN HIGHFIELD

was born March 21, 1872, at Animskog, Dalsland, Sweden. His



JOHN HIGHFIELD

parents are Fred and Sara M. Högfeldt. He emigrated to Amer-

ica as a youth of seventeen. His first place of abode was at Iron Mountain, Mich., but after a brief stay there he moved to Chicago. Here he engaged in the custom vest manufacturing business in 1891, still continuing in that line. His shop is at 189 Fifth ave.

Mr. Highfield is a member of the Swedish Ev. Mission Church on Orleans st., and has acted as trustee. He has been a member of the church choir there for more than seventeen years, and for several years has acted as its president. He is also a member of the Asaph Singing Society.

Mr. Highfield was married Sept. 27, 1898, to Selma Constance Charlotte Gustafson, born Nov. 4, 1873, at Göteborg. They have a daughter, Inez Virginia Henriette, born Dec. 31, 1901.

CARL J. APPELL

was born on a farm near Galva, Ill., of Swedish parentage, his father and mother having both been born in Sweden but having come to this country in their childhood. At fourteen years of age, he entered Augustana College, from which he graduated in 1894, receiving the degree of Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science simultaneously. The next year he spent partly at teaching public school and partly on the farm. In July, 1895, he entered the University of Chicago, specializing in the subjects of political science and political economy, but also studying French, Spanish, and Italian literature. In the fall of 1896, he took charge of the Swedish Lutheran missions in Gloucester and Rockport, Mass., for a



CARL J. APPELL

period of one year, and then entered the Chicago Law School in the fall of 1897. At the same time, he continued his studies at the University of Chicago, carrying a full course there. The following year he devoted to the study of law exclusively, and completed all the second and third year courses in the Kent College of Law, graduating therefrom in the spring of 1899. He thereafter took what was formerly known as the post-graduate law course at Lake Forest University, at the conclusion of which, in the spring of 1900, he wrote a thesis which took the first prize. Simultaneously he resumed his studies in political science and political economy at the University of Chicago, completing all the required courses for the degree of Doctor of Phi-

losophy, also pursuing linguistic studies. He has studied twelve languages in all. His studies completed, Mr. Appell removed to Peoria, where he opened a law office and practiced for three years, a part of the time in partnership with A. V. D. Rousseau, under the firm name of Appell & Rousseau.

Immediately after coming to Peoria, he helped to organize the Swedish-American Republican Club of that city, which he served as secretary for three years. In the fall of 1903 he returned to Chicago and opened a law office in the Unity Building, 79 Dearborn st.

Mr. Appell was a member of Troop G, First Regiment Cavalry, I. N. G., 1901–1903 and was one of the sharpshooters for which this regiment is noted, he having received the gold medal offered by the State of Illinois for proficiency in sharpshooting. By transfer he is now a member of Troop A, in Chicago, of the same regiment. Mr. Appell is also a member of the American Academy of Political and Social Science of Philadelphia. He is a member of the Immanuel Swedish Lutheran Church.

OSCAR T. ROBERG,

physician and surgeon, was born in Chicago in 1876. After taking a course in medicine at Rush Medical College, he was graduated in 1899. For a year he was instructor in chemistry at his Alma Mater. He then became house physician and surgeon at the Presbyterian Hospital in Chicago, remaining there from 1900 to 1902. Subsequently Dr. Roberg was appointed surgeon-in-chief at the Swedish Covenant Hospital in Chicago. He was appointed instructor in surgery at Rush Medical College in 1906, and has an extensive practice on the north side.



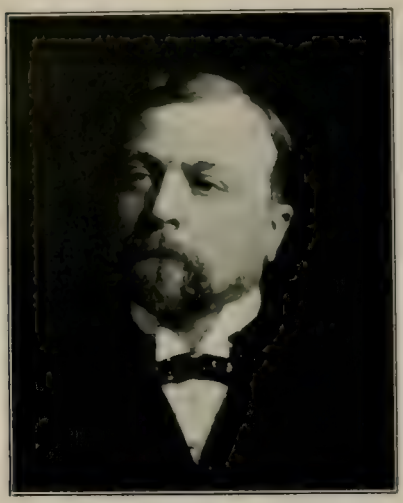
OSCAR THEODORE ROBERG

Dr. Roberg is a member of the Swedish Mission Church.

CHARLES A. WESTERHOLM

was born in Östra Ed parish, Kalmar län, Sweden, July 1, 1861. His father, Jacob Renhold Westerholm, is still living. His mother, Brigitta Lovisa, passed away May 27, 1877. The boy had but four months' schooling as he had to help his father on the farm. For a time he worked at cabinetmaking and then was a

sailor for three years. He came to Chicago May 12, 1880, and worked for his uncle nine years.



CHARLES AUGUST WESTERHOLM

In 1889 Mr. Westerholm formed a partnership with Nels Anderson and has since then been a soda water manufacturer and a general bottler with office at 383 Austin ave.

Mr. Westerholm is a Lutheran and is a member of I. O. S. No. 1, K. of P., and the following Masonic bodies, viz.: Thos. J. Turner Lodge No. 409; Washington Chapter No. 43; Columbia Commandery No. 63; Oriental Consistory, Scottish Rites, and the Mystic Shrine. Mr. Westerholm was married April 8, 1887, to Sophia Stolzenbach of Thornton, Ill., born Aug. 27, 1868. Their children are John Henry Edward, born Feb. 1, 1888 and Ethel, born July 19, 1891.

ADOLPH RYDIN

was born Dec. 12, 1870, on the Leonardsberg estate near Norrköping, Sweden. He emigrated to America at the age of eighteen. For a short time he stopped in Youngstown, Ohio. The following April he left for Chicago, where he has since resided. Working for a few years as a common laborer, he attended the evening schools hoping to improve his condition. During 1895 and 1896 he was saleman for J. L. Prescott and Co. Since then Mr. Rydin has been the Chicago representative of the Minnesota Scandinavian Relief Association of Red Wing. He has had marked



ADOLPH RYDIN

success in convincing his countrymen of the merits of the oldest life insurance company among the Scandinavian people of America.

Mr. Rydin was married in 1898, to Hilma Anderson. They have two sons.

ANDREW EDWARD NORMAN was born March 13, 1860, in Kolbäcken, Vermland, Sweden. His



ANDREW EDWARD NORMAN

father, Jonas Norman, was a forester. At the age of sixteen young Norman was apprenticed in the patternmaker's trade at the Finnshyttan Mechanical Works. He emigrated to America in 1880 and worked for six months as a joiner in Brooklyn. Thereupon he went to Ishpeming, Mich., where he became foreman in a joiner's shop. He took the first prize in carving for three years in succession at the Marquette county fair. A silver goblet was also won by him as champion skater of Northern Michigan. In 1887 he removed to Chicago where he is now a contractor and architect with office at 3575 N. Clark st. In his spare time Mr. Norman has executed some artistic wood carvings one of which represents Columbus landing in America. A truly wonderful piece of mechanical work by him is a miniature reproduction of the battle of Manila Bay, operated by electricity, showing fifteen inch battleships firing real explosive shells, vessels sinking automatically and powder magazines blowing up. This product of Mr. Norman's ingenuity has been exhibited publicly in Chicago and elsewhere.

Mr. Norman was, in 1882, when in Ishpeming, married to Miss Ulrika Olson from Dalsland, Sweden.

FREDERICK T. CROONBORG was born May 9, 1867, in the city of Mariestad, Sweden. After



FREDERICK T. CROONBORG

attending the public schools he was apprenticed to a tailor and at the age of sixteen became a journeyman tailor, working in Stockholm, Christiania, Copenhagen and elsewhere. Finally he concluded to emigrate to America

and came to Chicago in 1887. He soon found employment as coat maker, and after a couple of years became a cutter. In January, 1893, he was awarded a gold medal and the first prize from the U. S. Cutters and Tailors for his skill in garment cutting. At the World's Fair in 1893, he was again awarded by the same association. Mr. Croonborg for five years conducted a merchant tailoring business, but receiving a large number of applications for instruction in tailoring, he finally gave up his business and founded a tailoring school, known as Croonborg's Sartorial Academy, now located at 185 Dearborn st.

Mr. Croonborg was married June 2, 1897, to Miss Hildur Marie Gryzelius from Mariestad. They have one son.

GOTTFRED NELSON

was born July 8, 1875, on a farm near Knoxville, Ill. In 1878 his parents moved out to Kansas, settling on a farm in McPherson co., where the elder Nelson became a prosperous farmer.

At the age of four and a half years, Gottfred lost his mother by death. After due preparation he entered Bethany College, at Lindsborg, Kans., pursuing his studies in the winter months and working on his father's farm during vacations.

In the spring of 1898 he was graduated from Bethany College whereupon he was stationed as preacher in Jamestown, N. Y., and Kansas City, Mo. He entered the Augustana Theological Seminary at Rock Island in 1899 and was graduated in 1902, having



GOTTFRED NELSON

spent one year at the English Lutheran Theological Seminary at Chicago. On June 15, 1902, Mr. Nelson received ministerial ordination at Ishpeming, Mich., holding a call from the Bethesda Evangelical Lutheran Church, Chicago. Later he resigned this pastorate to accept a call from the Trinity Swedish Lutheran Church in Lake View, Chicago, a large and important field, in which he is laboring since Oct. 1, 1903. The congregation has more than doubled its membership during Rev. Nelson's pastorate, it now numbering about 800 communicants and about 1,200 in total.

Rev. Nelson was united in wedlock July 6, 1904, to Miss Anna Almquist of Butte, Mont. They have a daughter, Marjorie, born Dec. 21, 1905.

C. BERNHARD HEDSTRÖM was born Aug. 20, 1881, in Rättvik, Dalarne, Sweden. Coming



C. BERNHARD HEDSTRÖM

to Chicago at the age of twelve, with some schooling from the old country, he attended grammar school for a time in this city. Then he began work as errand boy and having been with several firms he struck his future vocation in 1896 with the shoe firm of N. B. Holden. After two years he accepted a position in the shoe stock room of The Fair. When he was but nineteen years of age, Mr. Hedström was promoted to the position of assistant manager of the shoe department. After five years' service with The Fair, Mr. Hedström became traveling salesman for Fargo-Keith and Co. In 1904 he became Chicago salesman for Florsheim and Co., shoe manufacturers. Mr. Hedström is well-known to the shoe trade in Chicago and throughout Illinois.

He belongs to the Gideons, the the Illinois Commercial Travelers' Association and the Y. M. C. A. Mr. Hedström belongs to the Oak Street Swedish Free Mission Church in which he has been assistant secretary, and leader of the mixed choir, besides being active in the Sunday school and the Young People's Society. He is now leader of the Hope Male Chorus and director of song in the Lake View Free Mission Church.

On Nov. 8, 1905, Mr. Hedström was united in marriage to Sabina Holm, born Dec. 2, 1882, in Chicago. Her parents are Christian M. and Anna C. Holm.

A. ALFRED HOLMES was born in Marbeck parish, Småland, Sweden. At the age



A. ALFRED HOLMES

of seven years he came with his parents to America. They located

in Chicago where he was educated in the public and the Swedish parochial schools. His talent for music was early manifested, and at the age of twelve he commenced his musical studies which were pursued for seventeen years under the following teachers: Alfred Alander, J. F. Ring, C. H. Wood, A. E. Fox and Calvin B. Cady.

Mr. Holmes has been prominently before the public for many years as organist, chorister and orchestral director. In 1890 he accepted a call as teacher of music at the Augustana Conservatory in Rock Island. In 1892 he resigned this position, but continued a private class at Rock Island and Moline until 1896, counting among his pupils members of the most prominent families of those cities. During all this time, however, his home was in Chicago. In 1896 he had charge of the music at the Dixon Chautauqua. For two years he was a member of the committee on convocation of church musicians of the General Council of the Lutheran church of America, and for three years director of the Luther League chorus. In 1881 he became the organist of the Swedish Lutheran Gethsemane Church, which position he held for twenty four years, until 1905, meanwhile refusing many flattering offers. The last ten years he was also leader of the church choir. He was a member of the Board of Trustees of the church for a number of years. Mr. Holmes is an enthusiastic Sunday school worker, and served as superintendent for several years up to 1905, when he became organist of the Immanuel Church, also transferring his Sunday school activity to that church. In 1902 he was elected a member of the Cook Co. Sunday School Association May Festival Committee. In 1906 he accepted the position as teacher in the Mendelssohn Conservatory of Music.

Mr. Holmes lives at 2345 W. Dakin ave., and has his studio in Steinway Hall.

FRANK C. LINDH

was born in Stockholm, Sweden, and received his educational train-



FRANK C. LINDH

ing in that city. Having reached the age of manhood, he emigrated to America and settled in Chicago in 1893. He chose the trade of machinist, in which he now holds the position of foreman in the

machine department of a manufacturing establishment.

Mr. Lindh was married Feb. 20, 1902. His wife, formerly Miss Alida Peterson, is a native Chicagoan.

PEHR E. GUSTAFSON

was born April 6, 1849, in Önsta parish, Nerike, Sweden. When but



PEHR E. GUSTAFSON

six years old he was left a poor orphan, with no one to provide for him, and on one occasion had to go without food for over four days. At the tender age of seven he began herding cattle for Rector Gumelius of Örebro parish. Then for three years he worked at street repairing in the city. At the age of fourteen he became an apprentice in the Rosenfors cutlery and tool factory in Eskilstuna for a term of eight years, earning his board and thirty crowns a year. At maturity he obtained work with a similar firm in Torshälla. Going to Finland he worked and attended evening school there, but soon returned to Sweden, and in 1881 resolved to try his luck in the New World.

After working some time in Philadelphia, Cincinnati, Toledo and St. Louis, he went to Chicago. Mr. Gustafson here engaged in the manufacture of saws, machine knives, etc., his factory being located at 214–216 S. Clinton st. He is an adherent of the Lutheran Church, and is an active member of Progressive Council No. 940, Royal Arcanum.

CHARLES J. LINDEN

was born Dec. 14, 1859, in Solberga, Småland, Sweden. March 24, 1882, he arrived in this country, bound for Chicago. He is a carpenter and building contractor



CHARLES J. LINDEN

and resides in Morton Park, one of the west side suburbs.

Mr. Linden belongs to the Odd

Fellows, Royal Arcanum and the Royal League. He was treasurer of the town of Cicero for two terms.

In 1896 Mr. Linden was married to Mathilda Kolander, with whom he has three daughters and one son.

JOHN H. HENRICKSON

was born in Filipstad, Vermland, Sweden, Nov. 12, 1849. Having



JOHN H. HENRICKSON

learned the tailors' trade under the direction of his father, who was a master tailor in Filipstad, he started an establishment of his own as soon as he became of age. Seized with a desire to try his fortunes in the land across the Atlantic, he emigrated in 1873, going first to Escanaba, Mich. After nine months he went to Minneapolis. In 1877 he left that city for Chicago, which has since been his home. Here Mr. Henrickson secured a position with the firm of G. W. Matthews & Son, and for more than a quarter of a century he has been connected with this house. His skill and care soon won him the confidence of his employers and popularity among the customers. In a very short time he became manager of the manufacturing department. Since 1901 he is a member of the firm.

In March, 1879, Mr. Henrickson was united in marriage to Miss Carolina Olson from Jönköping, Sweden. They have no children of their own, but have adopted a daughter, now married.

Mr. Henrickson is an old time Lutheran, and in politics a stanch Rupublican. He owns his residence at 1217 Wilton ave., Lake View.

ARVID N. SORLIN,

minister of the Swedish Methodist Episcopal Church, was born in the parish of Dal, near Hernösand, Sweden, March 31, 1861. His father, D. S. Sorlin, who was also a minister of the gospel, died in Boston, Mass., in 1888.

Having enjoyed instruction in the common school of his native place, Arvid accompanied his parents to this country in 1874. Here he continued his schooling in New York and Chicago, and then determined to study for the ministry. After completing the prescribed courses at the Swedish M. E. Theological Seminary at Evanston, Ill., he graduated from that institution in 1896.

Prior to entering the seminary,

Mr. Sorlin had performed pastoral work, having begun as a local preacher in 1891 and received his



ARVID NICKOLAUS SORLIN

first appointment as pastor the same year. In 1892 he was ordained deacon and in 1897, elder. Rev. Mr. Sorlin has served the Swedish M. E. churches in Lindsborg, Kans., Englewood, Ravenswood and Moreland in Chicago, and Rockford, Ill. At the present time he is stationed at the Union Avenue Swedish M. E. Church of Chicago.

Through his activity and ability as a clergyman Rev. Mr. Sorlin has attained a position of prominence in his denomination. In 1899 he was appointed Presiding Elder of the Galesburg District of the Central Swedish Conference, serving out the full term of six years. Having been elected on the board of trustees of the Theological Seminary at Evanston in 1900, he is still a member of that body and is at present its secretary. He has represented the Swedish portion of the Methodist Episcopal church at the General Conference, and held other positions of trust and honor.

His marriage took place March 15, 1882. Mrs. Sorlin, whose maiden name was Hannah Wilhelmina Erickson, was born March 11, 1865, and is the daughter of John W. and Maria Erickson of Oakland, Neb. A son, Oswald D. M., was born to Mr. and Mrs. Sorlin in 1883, and a daughter, Margaret N., in 1893.

EDWIN A. OLSON

was born of Swedish parents at Cambridge, Ill., Feb. 16, 1868.



EDWIN A. OLSON

He attended the Cambridge High School and Elliott's Business College in Burlington, Iowa. For some time thereafter he worked on his father's farm. Coming to Chicago in 1890 he commenced the

study of law. Since 1892, when he was admitted to the bar, he has practiced law in this city, and by energy and legal acumen has made success in his profession and acquired good standing at the Chicago bar.

Mr. Olson is a Republican and has for the last fifteen years taken an active interest in politics in every campaign, national, state and local. He was secretary for four years and president one year of the Swedish-American Republican League of Illinois and helped to make that institution the largest and strongest political organization of the kind in America.

He has been attorney for the Scandia Life Insurance Company for several years and has taken a vigorous part in the reorganization of that company from the assessment to the old line basis. He is now at the head of the agency department of the company.

Mr. Olson is an Odd Fellow, a 32d degree Mason and a member of Medinah Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S.

CARL A. LOTHGREN

was born June 4, 1869, in Kil parish, near Örebro, Sweden. In June, 1885, at the age of sixteen, he came over to this country. His first stop was in Rutland co., Vermont, but after two years he moved to Chicago. For the next four years he was working as a stone cutter. In 1892 he set up as a builder. Since that time he has built, owned and sold about a hundred or more houses. Mr. Lothgren is also in the real estate, renting and insurance business



CARL A. LOTHGREN

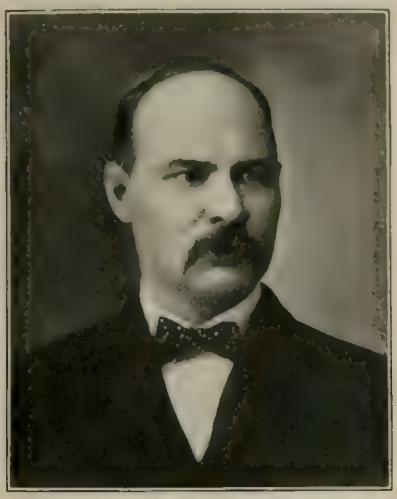
with office at Halsted and 59th streets.

The Second Swedish Baptist Church chose him as a trustee for several years. He is also a member of the Royal League. Mr. Lothgren was married Nov. 8, 1890, to Maria S. Engstrand who was born in Vermland. They have three sons.

CARL G. LINDHOLM

was born in Grenna, Sweden, Aug. 22, 1855. Having finished his schooling, he learned the shoemaker's trade, and in time became a master shoemaker. In 1880 he emigrated to Chicago. Having formed a partnership with Wm. Youngquist, he engaged in the retail shoe business. He sold his interest to Mr. Youngquist in 1898 and removed to Lake View, where he opened a large retail

shoe store at 1702 N. Clark st., and has been doing a thriving business ever since.



CARL GUSTAF LINDHOLM

Mr. Lindholm is an active member of the Mission Church in his home locality, and has held several offices, such as trustee and deacon and treasurer of the Sunday school. In politics he is an unswerving Republican.

In 1882 Mr. Lindholm married Miss Helen Swanstrom, the fruit of this union being five children —two boys and three girls.

ANDERS O. R. BERGENGREN

was born in Stoby, Skåne, Sweden, Sept. 8, 1872. He is a descendant of a family of the old Swedish nobility. Mr. Bergengren graduated in 1888 from the collegiate school in the city of Kristianstad and then took a position with the "Svanen" drug store in that city. He graduated from the Royal Institute of Pharmacy at Stockholm in 1892. In the same year he emigrated to the United States, and, after studying at Chicago schools of pharmacy, was made a registered pharmacist by the Illinois State Board of Pharmacy in 1893. Since 1896 he has been in the drug business at 854 Seminary ave., in Lake View.

In 1896 Mr. Bergengren was married to Hilda Natalia Euphro-



ANDERS OSCAR REINHOLD BERGENGREN

syne Morin. He is a member of the Independent Order of Vikings.

LARS N. S. KLAESSON

was born Oct. 15, 1869, in Gotland, Sweden. His parents were Olof Klaesson, a farmer, and Maria Klaesson. The boy's education was limited to the public school. He emigrated in 1887 and located in Kansas, and there grew to maturity. In 1895, at the age of twenty-six, he went

to Chicago. Mr. Klaesson is a traveling salesman for Carson, Pirie, Scott & Co., having charge of territory in Kansas.



LARS NICKLAS SEVERIN KLAESSON

Mr. Klaesson was married May 15, 1901, to Anna Christina Johnson, a daughter of John and Christina Johnson of Chicago, born Oct. 3, 1876. Mr. and Mrs. Klaesson have two daughters, Kathryn Bertram, born Oct. 1, 1902, and Nanna Jeannette, born Dec. 2, 1906. The family home is at 851 Sunnyside ave.

Mr. and Mrs. Klaesson belong to the Lutheran Church.

JOHN A. KOHLER,

secretary of the Parkside Loan and Savings Company, was born in the vicinity of Norrköping, Sweden, Jan. 15, 1844, and was educated at the Technological School of that city. He came to America in the spring of 1865. Being a mechanical engineer and machinist by profession, he had no trouble in keeping up with the march of the procession in this land of mechanical advancement. He settled first in Philadelphia, went later to New York, and in 1869 came to Chicago. From the first he took great interest in politics. He has been president of the Scandinavian Club of the Town of Lake and recording secretary of the Swedish-American Central Republican Club of Chicago. He was one of the



JOHN A. KOHLER

directors of the Linné Monument Association and took a lively interest in raising funds for the erection of a statue of the great botanist. In 1887, Mr. Kohler helped to organize the Linnean Society, and was the first president of that organization, which

is now one of the best Swedish-American sick-benefit societies in Chicago.

For the past eleven years, Mr. Kohler has been secretary of the Parkside Loan and Savings Company, a corporation which has been in successful operation since 1885. He is also conducting a real estate and insurance office at 5205 Wentworth ave. During his stay in Chicago he has been connected with several of the leading manufacturing establishments as mechanical engineer and machinist, which has been his principal business and means of livelihood. Realizing the value of the legal training to the business man, he took a course at the Chicago College of Law, graduating in 1899.

Mr. Kohler is married and has one son, Dr. E. A. Kohler.

CHARLES EVERT CARSON

was born Feb. 24, 1864, in Föglö, Åland, Finland. At eighteen he emigrated from Finland to America. Here he made Chicago his home and is still a resident of this city. He attended the public schools in his native land and the Metropolitan Business College in Chicago. Engaging in the building trade, he has built up a comfortable business for himself as building contractor.

The great interest taken by Mr. Carson in church work has made him an invaluable member in the Swedish Methodist Episcopal Church. He has served as trustee and secretary of his congregation.

In 1891 he was married to Miss



CHARLES EVERT CARSON

Anna Hallgren from Ydre, Östergötland, Sweden.

WAHLFRID WILLIAMSON

was born in Trelleborg, Sweden, April 18, 1850. Shortly after, his parents removed to Helsingborg, where he received a public school education and learned the printing trade, serving his apprenticeship in the printing office of *Öresunds-Posten*. Having learned his trade, he left that shop and worked for a time in the University Press in Lund, afterward returning to his old place in Helsingborg.

In April, 1869, at the age of nineteen, he left the fatherland, with Chicago as his destination. After his arrival here, he tried to obtain work at his trade; but as the only two Swedish newspaper offices in Chicago at that time

had no need of his services, he was forced to seek other employment. In Missouri he found work



WAHLFRID WILLIAMSON

on the Southern Pacific Railway, just being built, and remained until the following winter, when he was offered a place on the Swedish newspaper *Hemlandet*. In the spring of 1871 he became foreman in the printing office of *Nya Verlden*, afterwards *Svenska Tribunen*, and worked on that paper up to the time of the great Chicago fire, also for a time after the paper was re-established.

In 1875 Mr. Williamson started a printing office of his own at 1–3 N. Clark st., where he remained until the building together with his printing office on Feb. 18, 1903, was totally destroyed by fire. For many years Mr. Williamson was the only Swedish job printer in Chicago, and made himself known as a reliable and skillful printer. A considerable number of good books in Swedish as well as Norwegian, among which may be mentioned "Sverige och Svenskarne," by W. W. Thomas, and "Unionsperioden og Norges Gjenreisning," by Hagebert Miller, have been published from his office; several have been published in his own name. For some time he published a periodical, *Vid Aftonbrasan* ("At the Evening Fireside"). After his printing plant was destroyed by fire, he took a vacation from business, but in August, 1905, he again took up his old business, and is now located in his own building, 654 Winona ave., where he continues to do general book and job printing work. In 1907 he published a book entitled "Det femte Evangeliet, eller de fyra Evangelierna sammanväfda till en fullständig berättelse om vår Frälsare Jesu Kristi lif, ordnad i tidsföljd."

In 1879, Mr. Williamson paid a visit to his parents and relatives in the old country. His father, C. G. Wilhelmsson, was Sergeant Major of the regimental band of the Skåne Hussars.

Mr. Williamson was married in 1871 to Miss Carin Pehrson of Vestanskog, Skåne, but he had hardly established a home, when it was swept away by the great Chicago fire.

In 1882 he became a member of the First Swedish Methodist Church, and has held many important offices in that congregation. From 1882 to 1899, or seventeen years, he was secretary of the Swedish Methodists' Aid As-

sociation, a life insurance society. In 1892 he moved from the north side to Summerdale, where he owns a comfortable and pleasant home, and is a member of the Swedish Bethany M. E. Church.

OSCAR F. MALMBERG

was born in Motala, Sweden, Oct. 30, 1862. Coming to this



OSCAR F. MALMBERG

country in 1882, his first employment here was that of a grocery clerk. He afterwards formed a partnership with A. P. Nelson in the retail grocery business at 68 Chicago ave. In January, 1888, he became a member of the Chicago Fire Department, and was promoted to the position of lieutenant on the fire-boat "Yosemite" July 2, 1891.

Capt. Malmberg has on many occasions distinguished himself for bravery and was honorably mentioned by the department for rescuing a man from drowning at the Yosemite headquarters Aug. 5, 1892, and on the following night, with the assistance of the crew, rescuing two men from drowning. At the fire at 236–238 Monroe st., Feb. 14, 1894, Chief Swenie ordered him, together with his company, to effect the rescue of Wm. Fleming of company 40, who was caught by falling floors at the head of the stairs leading to the third floor. Just after they had succeeded in releasing Fleming's arm from underneath a heavy beam, an explosion occurred, throwing them to the bottom of the stairs on the first floor. Lieut. Malmberg and his crew did signal service during the lumber yard fire of Aug. 1, 1894, in preventing the whirlwind of flames from leaping the river to the south, thereby saving from certain destruction the Santa Fé elevator, which escaped with but slight damage. The wind developed into a cyclone of such power, that a wagon, loaded with lumber, was thrown into the air and struck the side of the "Yosemite," doing considerable damage. First Assistant Fire Marshal W. H. Musham was thrown into the river, but rescued by the crew. Lieut. Malmberg was blown from the standpipe on the deck, but recovered shortly afterward.

The following report, published in *The Daily News*, Sept. 13, 1894, gives a graphic description of his narrow escape from death and the part he played in rescuing his companions.

"When it was discovered that

fire had broken out in the lumber yards in South Chicago, the Yosemite was ordered to go to the fire. The boat left at 8:13 and when about three miles out in the lake it was found that the boat had sprung a leak and was filling with water which soon put out the fires. Finding that all efforts to keep the boat bailed out were unavailing, the crew looked for something to use for a signal. Nothing which could be seen at any distance was at hand. Then a desperate plan was resorted to. Lieutenant Malmberg took off his coat and dipped it into a barrel of kerosene, then fastened it to the end of a pole and set fire to it. The other members of the crew followed his example and soon the deck was illuminated by the improvised distress signals. The burning fluid trickled down the handles of the torches and burned hands and arms. The pain was excruciating, but the signals were vigorously waved. It was midnight before the live saving crew reached them. With succor at hand the men made a last desperate and unsuccessful attempt to save their craft. No sooner had the imperiled men been transferred to the life boat before the Yosemite sank."

The boat was later raised and placed in service again.

Lieutenant Malmberg was promoted to the position of captain under the civil service examination July 2, 1896, and assigned the command of engine company 21, State and Taylor sts., and in April, 1897, was transferred to engine company 83, 1111 South Place. Since Oct. 18, 1905, Capt. Malmberg has been in command of engine company 90, 57 E. Division st.

Captain Malmberg was married April 30, 1890, to Jennie Akerlind, and the couple have two children, Edgar and Irene.

ERLAND LARSON

was born Jan. 1, 1863, in Edsberg parish, Nerike, Sweden. He came



ERLAND LARSON

to the United States in 1886, bound for Minnesota. After a few months he went to Wisconsin, where he worked in a lumber camp. He next left for Oregon, where he remained three years. In 1893 Mr. Larson came to Chicago, working at first as a blacksmith. After a year he, in company with Mr. L. Wahlquist, organized the Grand Union Grill Works. The business began on a

small scale, but has so expanded that in 1907 the firm erected a large building at 1664–68 W. Lake st. It is the largest factory of its kind in the city, and a large assortment of grills, consoles and turned columns is manufactured.

Mr. Larson was married in 1897 to Anna Theresia Anderson from Nora, Westmanland, with whom he has three daughters, Hildur, Ella and Violet.

Mr. and Mrs. Larson belong to the Humboldt Park Swedish Methodist Church.

FRANK AUGUST LINDHOLM

was born in Grenna, Sweden, Sept. 21, 1868. He received an



FRANK AUGUST LINDHOLM

ordinary common school education in the public schools of his native land, and spent part of his youth in the cities of Jönköping and Falköping. On his eighteenth birthday he landed in this country. Being a tailor by trade, he specialized in the manufacture of vests and pants for the trade, a business he is now engaged in, giving employment to about 125 workers. The firm is the Lindholm, Johnson Co., at 215 Madison st. Mr. Lindholm has taken interest in organizations promoting the interests of his trade and has been financial secretary of the Tailor's Business Association. He has also served one term as president, besides filling other offices in the organization.

Mr. Lindholm is a member of the Swedish Mission Church at Orleans and Whiting streets, in which he at present is a trustee. For several years he has been a member of the church choir, and taught classes in the Sunday school, for which he is now the treasurer.

In 1892 Mr. Lindholm made a visit to his native land. The following year, having returned to Chicago, he was married to Miss Anna T. Sahlberg, Nov. 16, 1893.

GUSTAVE NELSON

was born Nov. 2, 1867, in Dalsland, Sweden. His father, Magnus Nilsson, emigrated with his family in 1869 and settled in Des Moines co., Iowa. He was one of the pioneers who organized the Swedish Lutheran church in Kingston, Iowa.

Gustave remained on the farm until 1892, when he went to Texas. After a short stay he went to Chicago, where he worked for two years. In 1894 he entered

Augustana College, continuing his studies there for two years. He then entered the law department



GUSTAVE NELSON

of the University of Michigan and was graduated in 1899. Mr. Nelson has an office at 145 La Salle st., where he is engaged in general law practice.

Mr. Nelson is a member of the Royal League.

CARL O. YOUNG

was born in Göteborg, Sweden, Oct. 10, 1865. When he was four years old, his parents came to America and settled in Kansas City, Mo. There he attended public school and the Swedish parochial school until twelve years of age, when he moved with his parents to Lindsborg, Kans. Here he worked on the farm in summer and attended school in winter until the fall of 1881, when he entered the academic department of Bethany College. Having finished the preparatory course, he was, in 1885, matriculated at Augustana College, in Rock Island, Ill., where he graduated in 1889. In the fall of that year he entered the medical department of Harvard University, where he completed the required four year years' course, graduating in 1893. During this period he had charge of the Swedish Lutheran Church at Quincy, Mass., which at that time erected a fine edifice, the only granite church building in the Augustana Synod.

In 1894–'96 Mr. Young pursued further medical studies at the University of Berlin. Returning to America in 1896, he opened an office in Chicago, where later he



CARL O. YOUNG

became chief of the medical department at Augustana Hospital.

In the summer of 1901 Dr. Young again made a trip to Germany, where he pursued further

medical studies in Hamburg for six months.

In August, 1904, Dr. Young incorporated the Washington Park Hospital, which was opened in rented quarters, Labor Day of that year. In February, 1906, a new building, with a capacity for seventy-five patients, was opened.

Dr. Young is chief of the hospital staff. He is a member of the Chicago, the Illinois and the American medical associations, and of the Harvard Alumni Association.

May 31, 1898, Dr. Young was married to Miss Sophia Swanstrom of Lindsborg, Kans. They have two children, Viola and Stanley.

K. ALBERT WEYDELL

was born in Kalmar, Sweden, Jan. 20, 1869. His childhood



K. ALBERT WEYDELL

and early youth were spent in his native city. At the age of sixteen he went to sea and spent a few years before the mast. During this time he visited all quarters of the globe and saw many strange lands. He stayed in Brazil and Chili for two years, and had occasion to familiarize himself with tropical and subtropical conditions. Finally he decided to take some rest from his extensive seafaring and came to Chicago to visit some relatives. They prevailed upon him to stay and he then began to study pharmacy at the University of Illinois School of Pharmacy. Immediately after his graduation he started in business at 6501 Cottage Grove ave., where he enjoys a good trade.

ALFRED L. MORRIS

was born at Chandlers Valley, Warren co., Pa., Oct. 2, 1865,



ALFRED LAWRENCE MORRIS

and grew up on the farm of his father, A. P. Morris, an old settler of that vicinity. Having attended public school in his home district

and the high school at Sugar Grove, Pa., he left home and came to Chicago in 1888. Here he engaged in the grocery business, conducting a retail store up to 1896, when he went out of business and went to work as a wholesale salesman with Durand, Kaspar & Co. From 1897 to 1901 he held a position as deputy clerk in the Criminal Court Clerk's office. In 1902 he was made general agent of the Scandia Life Insurance Co., and remains in its service to date.

Oct. 9, 1888, Mr. Morris was married to Miss Linda Jerner of Chicago, a daughter of Mr. John F. Jerner, born Sept. 10, 1868. Their children, with dates of birth, are: Irene Evelyn, Aug. 23, 1890; Edgar Lawrence, Aug. 23, 1892; Florence Marie, June 5, 1902.

Mr. Morris, with his family, belongs to the Salem Swedish Lutheran Church, where his brother-in-law, Dr. L. G. Abrahamson, has served as pastor for a long term of years. Mr. Morris is a member of King Oscar Lodge, A. F. and A. M., and the I. O. O. F.

JOHN LARSON

was born in Raflunda, Skåne, Sweden, Jan. 6, 1874. In 1888, at the age of fourteen years, he emigrated to America, locating in Chicago, where he worked in the grocery trade for some nine years. He then opened a fish and delikatessen store at 1685 N. Clark st. The business grew, and in 1901 he established a second store, at 1249 Belmont ave.

In 1901 Mr. Larson was married to Miss Ida Anderson and the couple have established a pleasant home at 1479 Belmont ave.



JOHN LARSON

WILLIAM P. CARLSON,

manufacturing tailor, was born in Falköping, Skaraborgs län, Sweden, March 7, 1863. At the age of twelve he emigrated to America, where he landed July 12, 1875. He has since resided in Chicago. He attended the public schools in this city, and afterwards learned the tailoring trade. Mr. Carlson is a member of the firm of manufacturing tailors, Strom, Carlson & Dreutz, at 472 Hermitage ave.

In 1889 Mr. Carlson was married to Miss Margaret Goodsnover, who is of Belgian descent. They have three children, Ethel, Helen

and William, and reside at 164 Larrabee st., owning the property.

Mr. Carlson is a member of the



WILLIAM P. CARLSON

Lutheran Church. He also belongs to the First Swedish Lodge I. O. O. F.

AXEL CHYTRAUS,

Judge of the Superior Court of Cook county, was born 1859 in Vermland, Sweden. At the age of ten he came with his father to America. They settled in Chicago, where his father was employed as a bookkeeper until his death in 1887. Axel attended the public schools and the Chicago Athenæum. At thirteen years of age he was employed as errand boy in the law office of Howe & Russell. Interesting himself in the business of the law office during succeeding years, he acquired a well-grounded legal knowledge before reaching maturity. In 1881, after nine years spent in the law office and in study, he was admitted to the bar. Four years later the firm of Blanke & Chytraus was formed. In 1892 Mr. Charles S. Deneen, then a young man, was taken into the firm, and it became Blanke, Chytraus & Deneen. When in 1893 Mr. Blanke was elected a judge of the Superior Court, the firm was continued as Chytraus & Deneen. Mr. Deneen was, subsequently, in 1896, elected State's Attorney, and he is now Governor of Illinois. Mr. Chytraus was elected a judge of the Superior Court of Cook county in 1898, at which time the firm of Chytraus & Deneen was dissolved, and he was re-elected in 1904.



AXEL CHYTRAUS

Augustana College in 1901 conferred upon him the degree of LL. D.

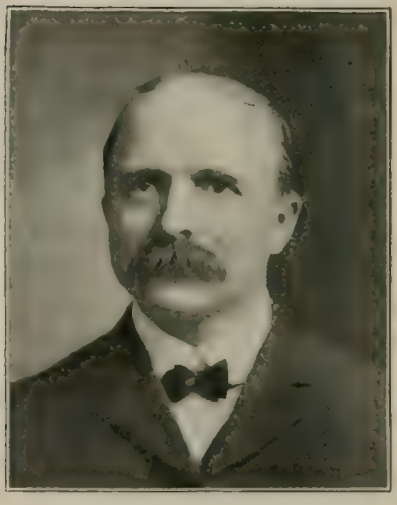
Judge Chytraus was married in 1892, to Miss Laura Haugan, daughter of Helge A. Haugan,

the well-known banker. Mrs. Chytraus died in 1907.

Judge Chytraus is a member of the Swedish Glee Club. He has the interests of the Swedish nationality in America at heart; his high standing among the judiciary reflects credit upon his countrymen generally, and in the councils of the Republican party in Chicago and the state at large his influence is recognized and his word carries weight.

ALFRED J. YOUNGDAHL,

the popular west side jeweler and optician, was born in Malmö,



ALFRED J. YOUNGDAHL

Sweden, Dec. 12, 1859, and came to America in 1883. For about a year he was connected with Benedict Bros., of New York. Leaving that city he went to Chicago, and for some time he was employed by N. Matson and Co. In 1889 Mr. Youngdahl formed a partnership with John R. Lilja and after about twelve years became sole owner. His place of business is at 565–567 W. Madison st. Mr. Youngdahl was married in 1895, to Miss Helen Mabel Kaye, of Lake Geneva, Wis., with whom he has one son and one daughter.

CARL G. LONNERBLAD

was born April 24, 1867, in the Swedish city of Falköping, in Ves-



CARL GUSTAF LONNERBLAD

tergötland. His parents were Nils Jonas Lönnerblad, a parson, and his wife Hedvig Carolina, née Mannerfelt. The son was given a thorough education, studying for six years at Skara, then continuing at a higher educational institution in Venersborg. At the age of twenty he joined the Royal Skaraborg Regiment and in 1888 completed his course at the Karlsborg military school. Later he abandoned the military career and in 1890 left Sweden for the United

States. Coming to Chicago he became first assistant to the late Dr. Ahlstrand in his massage establishment. Mr. Lonnerblad afterward was engaged as masseur at the sanitarium at Palmyra, Wis., in Lake Geneva, Ill., and Louisville, Ky. Returning to Chicago he opened his own establishment and has been in business as masseur and medical gymnast for the past ten years.

As a singer Mr. Lonnerblad soon attracted attention in Swedish musical circles in Chicago. His voice, a low tenor of rare quality, has been frequently heard in solos, duets and quartets at concerts and other public entertainments. In rendering the famous "Gluntsongs" of Wennerberg he is especially proficient. Since the fall of 1890 Mr. Lonnerblad has been active in the Swedish Glee Club, in which he has taken front rank both as a singer and as a social member. He served as secretary of the club in 1904–6 and was chosen vice-president in 1907. Upon the demise of Robert Lindblom, the president, early in the year, Mr. Lonnerblad became acting president of the club.

Mr. Lonnerblad in 1892 was among the organizers of the American Union of Swedish Singers, served as its secretary in 1901–3 and has for the past four years been first vice-president of the organization.

Combining as he does the musical with the dramatic talent, Mr. Lonnerblad is frequently called upon to assist in the production of Swedish plays. Without any claim to professionalism, his acting is free and natural, backed by clear intuition and intelligent interpretation.

Since coming to the United States, Mr. Lonnerblad has made several visits to Sweden, including the 1897 tour of the picked chorus of the A. U. S. S., of which he was a member.

ELLEN LINDSTROM

was born at Fjelkestad, Skåne, Sweden, Jan. 21, 1860. Her father,



ELLEN LINDSTROM

Swen Lindström, was the last master blacksmith in Sweden to receive a diploma from the old Blacksmiths' Guild. In his shop, which was her favorite resort when a child, were laid the foundations of that deep interest in the progress of the working people, which has characterized her later in life. She studied at girls' seminaries in her home city and in Skara. That

she was an ambitious student is shown from the fact that she was the youngest student ever sent out from her Alma Mater. The next ten years of her life were spent in teaching, until her health broke down. For several years she was apparently a hopeless invalid, and when health gradually returned, the school-room being forbidden her, she turned to a new field of activity. Her interest in social reform had been deepened, while still she was a teacher, by a meeting with Herr Bebel, the famous German socialist.

On leaving the school-room, she decided to cast her lot with the toilers. Coming to this country in 1890, Chicago was chosen as the field of her new activity. Within three days after reaching the city she was seated in a tailor shop, and was long identified with the tailoring trade of Chicago. She was for several years the business agent of a large local union, composed almost entirely of women. So far as is known, Miss Lindstrom was the first woman who ever bore the much abused title of "walking delegate." At the absorption of her union, the Special Order Clothing Makers, by the United Garment Workers, Miss Lindstrom was made a member of the General Executive Board of the latter organization, a body of 53,000 workers.

One of her chief desires is for the abolition of child-labor, to which her own trade offers so tempting a field. Through her instrumentality the women's local union already mentioned became one of the first labor unions in Chicago to take active steps in opposition to this great evil.

For years, both in Sweden and in America, Miss Lindstrom has been a frequent contributor to Swedish periodicals. In August, 1906, she left Chicago to take a position as associate editor of *Kvinnan och Hemmet*, a woman's journal, published at Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

In religion Miss Lindstrom is a Lutheran.

NELSON A. ANDERSON

was born May 7, 1855, in the parish of Lindberg, Halland, Swe-



NELSON A. ANDERSON

den. His father was the villiage blacksmith and taught his trade to his son. When the boy was thirteen, his father died. The lad now learned the carpenter's trade. He came to this country in 1874, and settled in St. Joseph,

Mich., where he obtained employment in the railroad shops and learned the molder's and machinist's trades. In 1886 he went to Kansas. The next year he came to Chicago and worked in various machine shops. He became a stockholder in the Carl Anderson Co., and was engaged there from 1889 until January, 1900. In April, 1902, he formed a partnership with K. L. Jones under the firm name Anderson and Jones, at 66 W. Lake st.

The business was later incorporated as The Anderson Machine Co., of which Mr. Anderson is president. In 1907 the firm moved to 56 N. Jefferson st.

In 1878 Mr. Anderson married Hanna Danielson of Småland, Sweden. The couple have been blessed with three children.

ANDREW TALLBERG

was born in Ljusdal parish, Helsingland, Sweden, Sept. 19, 1843. His early education was obtained in the parish school. In 1870 he emigrated to America and settled in Chicago, where he has since lived.

Mr. Tallberg is a well known business man and has devoted his time and energy to several lines of investment. For many years he was engaged in the real estate business and has built several flat buildings in Hyde Park. He has shown his faith in Chicago and its growth by investing largely in vacant and improved property and has thus contributed to the greatness of the city by the lake. At one time he owned and conducted a hotel and restaurant on the



ANDREW TALLBERG

south side, which not only increased his acquaintance among the Swedish as well as the American people, but proved a paying venture. In recent years he has given much of his time to mining and other investments. His office is at 112 S. Clark st., suite 410.

Mr. Tallberg for a number of years has been an active member of the Swedish Free Mission Church.

GUSTAF T. CEDERLÖF

was born Oct. 18, 1848, in Timsbro, Karlskoga parish, Örebro län, Sweden. He received instruction in the public school and in the first four classes in the collegiate school in Kristinehamn. In 1866 he obtained employment in the Wallgren tannery in Örebro, in order to learn his father's trade.

He returned home in 1869 and assumed management of the farm and the tannery owned by his



GUSTAF T. CEDERLÖF

father. Mr. Cederlöf continued in this vocation until 1884, when he went to Chicago. Until 1893 he was employed with the Lambeau Leather Co. Since then he has conducted a restaurant, and later a bakery in Austin.

Mr. Cederlöf was married in 1891 to Ida Maria Tornberg from Kristianstad, province of Skåne. They have a daughter, Ruth.

CHARLES B. CARLEMAN

was born in Stockholm, Sweden, Aug. 6, 1860. He came to America in April, 1866, with his father, Dr. Mauritz B. Carleman, now deceased.

Mr. Carleman is the proprietor of the Phœnix Pharmacy, located at 63 E. Chicago ave.

Mr. Carleman is a member of I Will Lodge, Knights of Honor,



CHARLES B. CARLEMAN

and Lincoln Park Lodge, A. F. and A. M.

EDWARD T. CARLSON

is a native of Tanum, in Bohus län, Sweden, where he was born July 1, 1863. His schooling he received in his native place. At the age of twenty-three he left the old country for America. Arriving in Chicago in May, 1886, he at once obtained employment in a paint shop, working there for three years. Subsequently he opened a paint shop of his own on Milwaukee ave., remaining in business there until about ten years ago, when, recognizing a more profitable outlook in Irving Park, he removed to that suburb and there established the Irving Park Paint Store, at 2684–86 N. 40th ave., where he is still located, dealing in paints and wall paper.

In 1893 Mr. Carlson visited his

old parents in Sweden, and finding them enfeebled by age and the old homestead badly encum-

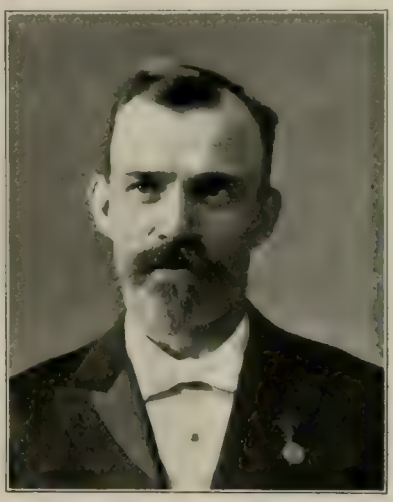


EDWARD THEODORE CARLSON

bered, he purchased the farm and turned it over to his eldest sister and her husband, they in return therefor being required to take the best care of the aged couple, thus relieving them of worry and insuring them a comfortable home for the remainder of their days.

While in Sweden on this errand of filial charity, Mr. Carlson formed the acquaintance of Miss Emilia Tobiasson, to whom he was married in 1894. The couple have now a family of six children, four boys and two girls.

SVEN OLOF LEJONSTEIN, inventor and electrical engineer, is the son of Carl Magnus Lejonstein, a farmer at Urshult, Småland, Sweden, and his wife, Cecilia Björk, both deceased. He was born on his father's farm, June 20, 1860, and was reared and educated in the home parish up to 1876, when he went to Germany intent on learning the mechanic's trade. He was employed at the Linden Works at Hanover for three years and subsequently in the Kockum Works at Malmö a short time before going to Stockholm in 1880. During the seven years next following he led a seafaring life, gradually working his way up and spending enough time on land to pass the necessary examinations for preferment. He began his career as marine engineer on a passenger steamer plying between Stockholm and



SVEN OLOF LEJONSTEIN

London. Later we find him in the service of the British merchant marine, as assistant engineer of the Persian Gulf liner "Express" and the East India liner "Lord Warwick." For two years,

1887 to 1889, Mr. Lejonstein left the sea to become mechanical engineer in the milling and baking plant of Schumacher, the court baker, at Stockholm. Then he returned to his former occupation on shipboard, making an extensive trip with the British mail steamer "Catania," from London to Melbourne and Sydney via Suez, then doubling the Cape, en route to New Zealand, and from there back via Rio Janeiro, arriving in London New Year's eve, 1890. He now took a position with the Max Nordenfeldt Gun Factory, remaining for fifteen months. During his stay in England he was married to Miss Anna Carlson, Jan 31, 1891, the ceremony being performed at the Swedish consulate by Pastor Palmér of the Swedish church in London. Mrs. Lejonstein, daughter of Carl Danielson, a farmer at Urshult, was born Aug. 22, 1867. They have a son, Carl Olof, born July 31, 1894. Their first child, a son of the same name, died in infancy.

Coming to the United States in April, 1891, Mr. Lejonstein went to the Navy Yard at Washington, armed with recommendations from England. In the absence of the official to whom they were addressed, he turned for employment to the Baldwin Locomotive Works in Philadelphia, where he worked for a short time until he was employed as engineer for the Keene Sutterlee Company in the same city. He remained for more than a year, meanwhile completing the course in electrical engineering at the Scranton Correspondence Schools.

In the fall of 1892, Mr. Lejonstein came to Chicago. After being employed for some time as engineer for Reid, Murdoch and Company, he took charge of the heat, light and power plant of Paul O. Stensland and Co., remaining as chief electrical engineer for eleven years.

Mr. Lejonstein exhibits with pardonable pride the grand gold medal of the Paris Academy of Inventors and accompanying diploma of honorary membership, awarded him Nov. 12, 1892, for a life-saving device of his invention. Other ingenious inventions are a rapid-firing cannon, and a safety brake for elevators. Mr. Lejonstein now has a patent pending on a stopper for faucets and valves, permitting their removal and repair without first turning off the water or other liquid or gas. Thus a water faucet in a large apartment house may be repaired without inconveniencing all the tenants by cutting off the entire water supply for the building.

Mr. and Mrs. Lejonstein are Lutherans and have been members of the Swedish church when in London and the Gethsemane Swedish church as residents of Chicago.

OTTILIE A. LILJENCRANTZ is an author, who has sprung into prominence in a remark-



OTTILIE ADELINE LILJENCRANTZ

ably short time. She was born in Chicago Jan. 19, 1876. Her father is G. A. M. Liljencrantz, who for over thirty-five years has been United States assistant engineer in Chicago. Through him, her ancestry is traced back to Laurentius Petri, the disciple of Martin Luther, who, with his brother, Olaus Petri, introduced the Lutheran religion into Sweden. Laurentius Petri was created the first Lutheran archbishop in Upsala during the reign of Gustaf I. Vasa. In 1541 he introduced the first Swedish translation of the Bible, of which he had translated the greater part of the Old Testament. Some of his hymns are still preserved in the Swedish Psalmbook. Another paternal ancestor was Johan Vesterman, the son of a clergyman of Gefle, who in 1768 was created a baron, and later a count, in recognition of his brilliant career as councillor of state and minister of finance under Gustaf III. He then assumed the name of Liljencrantz.

On her mother's side, Miss Liljencrantz has a New England ancestry which goes back through revolutionary times to the old puritan days of 1640, when her forefathers came over from England.

Andersen's fairy tales, stories of the romantic adventures of Gustaf Vasa, of the glory of Gustaf II. Adolf, of the heroism of Carl XII. and reminiscences of her father's boyhood were the first bedtime stories of the little girl. When seven she wrote her first love story. From twelve to twenty she had a passion for writing plays for amateur theatricals. At the age of sixteen she wrote a play founded on the legend of "the King's Ring," as described in the famous "Surgeon's Stories," of Topelius.

Miss Liljencrantz was educated at Dearborn Seminary, graduating in 1893. She had thoughts of entering upon a university course, but her health not being equal to the continuous grind, she occupied herself with home reading and home study. With the exception of fairly thorough courses in German and French, her education has been in English, but she has had the benefit of her father's translations in the case of Swedish and Norwegian history.

The first book written by Miss

Liljencrantz was a juvenile entitled "The Scrape that Jack Built," published in 1896. The circum stance that undoubtedly decided her future field was the purchase of Du Chaillu's "Viking Age," which intensely fascinated her. "Frithiof's Saga" and Andersen's "Norse Mythology" further aroused her to the possibilities of a field at once inestimably rich and comparatively untilled. These studies resulted in "The Thrall of Leif, the Lucky," published in 1902 by A. C. McClurg & Co. as their leading "book of the year." This glowing tale is centered in the career of Leif Ericson, the Norse Viking, who in the year 1000 sailed from Greenland and, landing in the present state of Rhode Island, was the discoverer of the American continent.

In 1903 Miss Liljencrantz brought forth another book, which like its predecessor has seen several editions. This historical romance is founded on the conquest of England by the Danish king, Canute, and is entitled "The Ward of King Canute."

Another book written by Miss Liljencrantz is "The Vinland Champions," a juvenile, depicting the adventures of a young Norseman and his comrades on an expedition to Vinland in 1009.

"Randvar, the Songsmith; A Romance of Norumbega," is the title of her latest work, which was published by the Harpers. It is a tale of the time of the Norsemen in America, and is based on the legends woven about the old tower at Newport. The son of the viking mentioned in Longfellow's "The Skeleton in Armor," is the hero of the novel, which is regarded as Miss Liljencrantz's best work. These romances exhibit profound study of northern antiquities aside from a vivid imagination and finished literary power on the part of the gifted author.

Besides the writing of these books Miss Liljencrantz has never done anything to bring herself before the public or into the newspapers. As an only child her girlhood has been passed quietly in her native city, in close companionship with her father. The home is at 24 Groveland Park.

CARL I. J. IRENÆUS,

physician and surgeon, was born Dec. 15, 1872, in Krakstad, an old



CARL I. J. IRENAEUS

estate in the parish of Högstad, Östergötland, Sweden, which has belonged to his ancestors for many

generations. His father, Per Johan Jonsson, was born 1830 and died at his home in Sweden in 1904. His mother is Clara Charlotta Irenæus, born 1841, and wife in the second marriage of his father. There were nine brothers and three sisters in the family.

Dr. Irenæus obtained his early education first at home and later at the Kristinehamn Practical School. In 1891 he passed the examination for entrance to the Polytechnical College in Norrköping, and graduated from the chemical branch of this college in 1895, receiving the highest award of the institution, the "Carl Johan Nelin prize." May 10 of the following year he left home, bound for Chicago, with the intention of engagin chemico-technical work in this country. At first he obtained employment with the electrical firm of Gus. Monrath & Co. and later with the Western Electric Co. He also worked for some time in a bicycle shop. In 1897 he became assistant to Dr. Charles W. Purdy, the prominent physician and physiological chemist, whose valuable text-books and writings are well-known to the medical profession in this country as well as abroad. Dr. Purdy soon recognized the ability of his new assistant, and before long placed him in charge of his laboratory. Here Irenæus began to make his investigations, resulting in a series of new methods: 1:o The construction of the Purdy Electric Centrifuge; 2:o A method for the quantitative determination of sugar in diabetes, known as "Purdy's sugar test;" 3:o The Purdy method for qualitative and quantitative determination of albumen in Bright's disease; 4:o The Purdy centrifugal method for quantitative estimation of chlorides, phosphates and sulphates in the urine. All these methods which furnish valuable data in the diagnosis and treatment of disease were published during the five years that Irenæus was in cooperation with Purdy. Credit is given Irenæus in some of these publications, but privately Dr. Purdy gave him full credit, and promised that Irenæus should become his successor, and that his laboratory and practice should be given him. Upon Purdy's sudden death, and in the absence of any written statement to this effect, this plan miscarried.

After Purdy's death, Irenæus, who had not yet completed his medical course, took up studies at the University of Chicago for the degree of Ph. D., but after nearly two years of study reentered the medical career, and obtained the degree of B. S. in 1903, and graduated in medicine in 1905.

Dr. Irenæus has had much special training in different branches of medicine. He was for four years director of the clinical laboratory of Dr. Wm. E. Quine, assistant bacteriologist to the city Health Department, assistant to Dr. Turck, the well-known specialist on diseases of the stomach, and is now pathologist at the Michael Reese Hospital, and professor in chem-

ical and microscopic diagnosis in a medical college.

Dr. Irenæus has made a journey to the different countries of Europe to study his profession. Recently he has invented an instrument for determing the amount of coloring matter in the blood.

JOHN R. ÖRTENGREN

is a dominant figure in the musical life of Chicago, particularly so among the Swedish-Americans. His great service to his nationality consists in having raised to the highest pitch the interest of his countrymen in the songs of the fatherland. His influence has extended from Chicago to every point in the United States where patriotic choral singing is being practiced by them. It was under his leadership that the Swedish Glee Club of Chicago attained the acme of fame, and under his electrifying baton the American Union of Swedish Singers won their greatest triumphs.



JOHN REINHOLD ÖRTENGREN

John Reinhold Örtengren was born in the Swedish province of Gestrikland Oct. 5, 1862. His father was a captain of the Gestrike-Helsinge regiment of the Swedish Army. A brother, Albion Örtengren, is a leading actor of the Royal Dramatic Theatre at Stockholm.

Having finished his studies at the higher elementary school in Gefle, young Örtengren began the study of music with Fritz Arlberg, a famous operatic singer of the capital. In 1883–85 he studied with Prof. Julius Günther at the Royal Academy of Music, earning the Abrahamson scholarship. In the meantime he completed the course in the school of acting in connection with the Royal Theatre and in 1885–86 he was a member of its dramatic company. In 1886 Mr. Örtengren went to Paris, studying for a year with Prof. Romaine Bussine. Returning to Sweden, he was attached to the Royal Opera until 1889, as operatic singer.

That year Mr. Örtengren left Stockholm for Chicago, and for the past sixteen years he has been connected with the Chicago Musical College, ranking among the foremost in a corps of half a hundred teachers.

His sweet, sympathetic baritone voice at once made Mr. Örtengren a favorite concert singer and church soloist in Chicago. In the latter capacity he has been connected with the Unity and Union

Park Churches and is at present baritone soloist of the First Congregational Church in Oak Park.

Mr. Örtengren's efficiency as a director having become known, many choral organizations competed for the privilege of his services. Much of his time has for years been taken up in training and directing choruses, both American and Swedish. Besides the aforesaid Swedish Glee Club may be mentioned the Mendelssohn Club of Rockford, the Sveas Söner of the same city, the Wennerberg and Swedish Festival Choruses, the Swedish Singers' Union of Chicago, and, since 1906, the Svithiod Singing Club.

At the great Scandinavian singing festival held in Minneapolis in 1891 Mr. Örtengren directed the grand chorus of united singing clubs. When the American Union of Swedish Singers was organized the following year he was chosen director-in-chief and subsequently acted in that capacity at the "Swedish Day" concert at the Columbian Exposition and at the singers' conventions in New York, Rockford, Minneapolis, Chicago and Moline.

When in 1897 a picked chorus from the singers' union made a tour through Sweden, Mr. Örtengren led the triumphant troupe and was accorded a private audience before King Oscar, who spoke in terms of unmeasured praise of the American Singers and their leader.

It may be added that Mr. Örtengren frequently has lent his dramatic talent in the production of Swedish plays in Chicago and other cities. On such occasions he has invariably enacted leading parts, and by his energetic and convincing acting inspired less experienced fellow actors with confidence and courage. He has also acted as stage manager at various performances.

With his exceptional talents Mr. Örtengren combines a modesty that has much to do with his popularity with those under his training. As a vocal teacher he takes first rank. He possesses extraordinary ability in bringing out voices and imparting to the pupil that artistic enthusiasm without which study becomes a mere drudgery. Many are the soloists who owe their success to the excellent training enjoyed under him.

Mr. Örtengren is married and lives at Park Ridge. His wife, whose maiden name was Mimmi Lindström, herself a prominent pianiste, came from the city of Hudiksvall, Sweden. Two children were born to them, a daughter, Svea, who died several years ago in the prime of youth, and a son, Helmer, still living.

ALFRED EDWIN WESTMAN

was born in Hammarlunda parish near Lund, Sweden, July 20, 1855. He was educated in the common school, and in the people's high school, and also graduated from a business college. Not satisfied with this he entered the Agricultural college at Alnarp, taking a complete

three years' course, and graduating with honors in 1876.

In Reslöf, a cousin of his owned a large estate, and Mr.



ALFRED EDWIN WESTMAN

Westman was now offered a position as book-keeper with him, which he accepted. His next promotion was to a similar position at Sägbyholm, a large estate of 4,000 acres of land in the richest part of Skåne. Although this position was both responsible and remunerative, Mr. Westman found it too confining for his energies and consequently gave it up to test his fortune in the United States. Coming over in 1880, he was employed for three years on a large stock farm, at Wataga, near Galesburg, Ill. Thereafter he located in Chicago as a general broker. In 1887 he abandoned the brokerage business and started in the livery business at Chicago and Dearborn aves., Chicago. After five years he sold out and engaged in the real estate and loan business. After another five years he decided to return to his native country with his family. Over there he bought a fine estate. But after having lived in the United States, Mr. Westman did not find conditions in the old country to his liking, so he soon sold his estate and returned the following year to Galesburg. Next we find him back in Chicago, once more in the real estate and loan business, with office in the First National Bank Building. He is still engaged in that line of business and has a branch office at 3606 N. Clark st. By strictly attending to business and fair dealing he has won a large clientele of customers.

In 1883 Mr. Westman was married to Miss Kate B. Bennett, a daughter of Mr. B. P. Bennett, a venerable Swedish gentleman of Galesburg. This union has been blessed with five children, namely, Kate Elizabeth, born 1888, Olga Josephine, 1890, Alfred Edwin, 1891, Martha Rowena, 1894, and Julia Harriet, 1900. With his family he occupies his own elegant residence at 958 Farragut ave., Edgewater.

The family attends the Ebenezer Swedish Lutheran Church.

WILLIAM B. WINGREN

was born in Malmö, Sweden, April 11, 1877, and emigrated with his parents to the United States when he was but three years old. The family located in

Chicago, where he attended the public schools and was graduated in the spring of 1893. In 1894



WILLIAM B. WINGREN

he attended the Metropolitan Business College for a short time and thereafter the Chicago Athenæum. In 1895 he was employed as a clerk in the office of the *Nya Wecko-Posten*, which is published by his father, the Rev. Mr. Eric Wingren. In 1897 he became assistant manager of the paper and in 1900 assumed the general management.

JOSUA LINDAHL,

one of America's eminent men of science, belongs to the state of Illinois by dint of eighteen years spent in important work here, first as professor of natural science at Augustana College and subsequently as state geologist and curator of the museum of natural history at Springfield.

Johan Harald Josua Lindahl was born in Kongsbacka, Sweden, Jan. 1, 1844, the son of Johan Lindahl, a clergyman of the Lutheran state church, and Susanna Mathilda Björklander, his wife. Upon the death of his father in 1854, the ten year old son was sent to relatives in Karlshamn. Here he completed the courses at the local collegiate school, passing the examination for graduation in May, 1863, at the University of Lund, where higher studies were pursued. Partly supporting himself by private tutorship in the von Essen family throughout his stay at the university, he received further assistance by being once awarded the Thomander stipend,



JOSUA LINDAHL

voted once a year by the student body to the most worthy of their number.

He finished his post-graduate course in science in January,

1872, and, having presented his thesis, received the degree of Ph. D. in June, 1874. The following year Dr. Lindahl was appointed docent in zoology at the university, and retained this position until he became a professor at Augustana College. During the years 1864–1866 Dr. Lindahl served as substitute or extra teacher at the colleges of Landskrona, Lund and Göteborg.

In 1875 Dr. Lindahl was appointed secretary of the Swedish commission to the International Geographical Congress and Exposition held in Paris that year. Upon his return to Stockholm in the fall he was made secretary of the commission to take charge of the Swedish section about to be arranged for the Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia in 1876, his duties taking him to the exposition city in November of the same year. In that capacity he served until the Swedish exhibits were shipped home. When, after the close of the exposition, there was formed in Philadelphia a so-called Permanent International Exhibition, Dr. Lindahl was made superintendent of the Scandinavian department. The plan soon failed for lack of funds, and Dr. Lindahl's department was, in fact, the only one that was ever completed. He remained in Philadelphia until December, 1878.

At the time of the World's Fair in Chicago Dr. Lindahl, as Curator of the state museum at Springfield, was charged with the arrangement of a geological exhibit in the Illinois state building, a task which occupied the greater part of his time from the spring of 1891 until July, 1893. In August of the last named year he was appointed on the international committee of awards, to fill a vacancy in the Swedish delegation in that body.

Dr. Lindahl has participated in a number of scientific expeditions in the capacity of zoologist. His training for scientific work had begun early. As a student in Karlshamn Dr. Lindahl had assisted Prof. Gosselman in compiling the flora of the province of Blekinge, meanwhile collecting a large herbarium and making a good beginning for a collection of Swedish land and fresh water shells, which later was added to the Augustana College Museum. At the University of Lund he was in close touch with Prof. Otto Torell, at that time Sweden's foremost scientific explorer of the Arctic regions, whose influence had much to do with determining Dr. Lindahl's line of study. When in 1869 J. Gwynn-Jeffreys, the British conchologist, visited Lund to examine Torell's collections from the Arctics, Dr. Lindahl was serving as amanuensis in the museum and as such lent assistance to the visiting scientist. This acquaintance rendered him an invitation the following spring to take charge of Mr. Gwynn-Jeffreys' own pleasure yacht, the Osprey, on a scientfic cruise off the west coast of Ireland, where zoological dredgings

were made in Dingle Bay. This trip was made in May and June, 1870. The following three months Dr. Lindahl spent participating in an expedition with H. M. S. Porcupine, under the auspices of the Royal Society of London, for the purpose of deep sea explorations, partly in the Atlantic, under the direction of Gwynn-Jeffreys, partly in the Mediterranean, in charge of Dr. W. B. Carpenter. Returning to England, Dr. Lindahl spent several months of study in the British Museum and the Museum of Comparative Anatomy in London before going back to Sweden in December.

The following year, 1871, Dr. Lindahl was the zoologist of an expedition sent out by the Swedish Academy of Science to make explorations in Greenland and more especially to bring back certain huge blocks of meteoric iron, discovered the previous year by Nordenskjöld. The party went in two ships, Ingegerd and Gladan, and spent the months of May to September in the far North. During the two successive summers he accompanied dredging expeditions along the coasts of Sweden, the purpose being to establish the prevalence and distribution of invertebrates serving as food for fish.

From 1872 to 1875 Dr. Lindahl was assistant in the Royal Swedish Museum at Stockholm, working under the direction of Prof. Sven Lovén, one of the foremost Swedish scientists of recent times.

After subsequent service at the exposition in Philadelphia, Dr. Lindahl in 1878 accepted a call to the chair of natural science at AugustanaCollege, a position which did not exist prior to his arrival. Here he taught until the spring of 1888, in the meantime working with great energy to make scientific collections as a necessary aid to instruction in his branches. He made trips in various directions in quest of material, the most extensive and fruitful one being a summer trip to California and the Farallone Islands in 1886. While at Augustana he practically created at that institution a museum of natural history, superior in extent and arrangement to most similar museums in the West. During his first years at Augustana he also taught mathematics, a subject in which he had taken the highest mark at his college graduation. He was the first professor at the college who was not a minister.

When Dr. Lindahl left Augustana in 1888 to take the more lucrative position of curator of the museum at Springfield, in connection with the office of state geologist, he found that institution in a chaotic condition, but rich in material, epecially geological specimens. After five years in charge, he left the museum scientifically arranged and greatly enriched as a result of his labors.

Being a scientist to the bone, Dr. Lindahl devoted all his energies to the museum and to geological work, never recognizing

the office as a "political" one, until his resignation was demanded by Governor Altgeld. His term of service at Springfield was from May, 1888, to July, 1893.

The next two years Dr. Lindahl lived in Chicago, devoting most of his time to teaching. In 1895 he was called to the position of director of the Cincinnati Society of Natural History and entered upon his duties in December. In this position, which he retained until September, 1906, Dr. Lindahl edited the *Journal of the Cincinnati Society of Natural History*, a scientific periodical published by the society.

While Dr. Lindahl's pen is a capable one, it is not prolific. His principal contributions are the following: In French—Expéditions Suédoises aux régions arctiques, a paper included in Notices sur la Suède a l'occasion du Congrès International des sciences géographique de 1875, a Paris; in English—Geographical Survey of Illinois, Vol. VIII; Description of a Skull of Megalonyx Leidey, published in the Transactions of the American Philosophical Society; Report on the Geological Department of the Illinois State Exhibits at the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago, 1893; Description of a Devonian Ichthyodorulite, Heteracanthus Uddeni, n. sp. from Buffalo, Ia.; and Orthography of the names of the Naiades;—both of these papers were published in the *Journal of the Cincinnati Society of Natural History*; in Swedish—Om Pennatulidslägtet Umbellula Cuvier, being his thesis for the degree of Ph. D., which was embodied in the Transactions of the Swedish Academy of Sciences. Other articles by him have appeared in various Swedish, English, French and German publications from time to time. In addition to the above Dr. Lindahl must be given credit for purely literary ability of a high order, as exemplified in several popular sketches that have appeared in the Swedish-American literary annual, *Prärieblomman*, and in Swedish general newspapers.

Dr. Lindahl is a member of a number of learned societies of both continents, including the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American Society of Vertebrate Paleontologists, the American Society of Invertebrate Paleontologists, the Museums Association of America, the National Geographic Society, Svenska Sällskapet för Antropologi och Geografi, the Swedish-American Historical Society, and the Ohio State Academy of Science, of which he has been president. On different occasions he has received marks of distinction at the hands of high authorities: thus, at the close of the International Geographical Exposition at Paris in 1875 the Minister of Public Instruction appointed him Officier d'Academie, and in December, 1877, King Oscar II decorated him with the Royal Order of Vasa in recognition of

his services to Sweden at the Centennial Exposition.

In 1893 Dr. Lindahl's friend and old-time comrade at the university, Dr. P. Håkansson, who discovered the medicinal properties of acetic ether, and subsequently invented Salubrin, requested him to take charge of the manufacture of that article in the United States. As a result Dr. Lindahl established a Salubrin Laboratory at Cincinnati, of which he himself is the manager. This caused him to give up his position as director of the Cincinnati Museum, and he is now preparing to move his headquarters to Chicago.

In 1877 Dr. Lindahl, then in Philadelphia, made a trip to Sweden aud brought back as his bride Miss Sophie Påhlman, a daughter of Major Carl Adolph and Mrs. Sophie Påhlman, born July 5, 1848. The marriage took place Mar. 18, 1877. Of four children born to them, the oldest, Sven Carl, died at an early age. A daughter, Eva Hedvig Sophia, born May 15, 1880, is the wife of Dag Agnar Engström, superintendent of the factory of the Separator Company of Stockholm. The other children are Seth Harald, born Mar. 12, 1882, superintendent of the Salubrin Laboratory, and Signe Elizabeth Ida Sophia, born April 6, 1884.

Outline biographies of Dr. Josua Lindahl are to be found in the National Cyclopedia of American Biography and in American Men of Science, published by the Carnegie Institute.

OTTO G. RYDEN,

lawyer and member of the Chicago bar, was born Sept. 6, 1874,



OTTO GUSTAF RYDEN

at Ryssby, Sweden, where he received his early training in the public schools, until he came to Seneca, Ill., in the early spring of 1889. Remaining there until the following September, he went to Evanston, where he has since resided. Mr. Ryden's father, Carl Gustafson Ryden, was a farmer and master mechanic. He died at Seneca, Ill., Jan. 3, 1903. The maiden name of Mr. Ryden's mother was Britta Lena Olson, who now resides with one of her daughters in Iowa.

Following the mechanical trend of his father, Mr. Ryden, while yet a mere boy, decided to learn a trade. With that purpose in view he soon became an apprentice, at the age of sixteen, with a mason contractor in Evanston. After a few years he became a

building superintendent, but realizing that there were better opportunities for trained men, Mr. Ryden decided to take advantage of the educational opportunities offered in Evanston. He therefore entered the Evanston township high school in the fall of 1895.

While a student at the high school and later at the university, Mr. Ryden found time to represent his school on some of its athletic teams, besides earning enough money by outside employment to defray his necessary school expenses. He was graduated from the Evanston high school in June, 1899, and in the fall of that year entered the Northwestern University, from which he was graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Philosophy in 1903. Having decided before this time to enter the legal profession, Mr. Ryden entered the Northwestern University Law School in the fall of 1902 and graduated with the degrees of Master of Arts and Bachelor of Laws in June, 1905. He was then engaged by one of the oldest and most prominent law firms in Chicago, Hoyne, O'Connor & Hoyne, and, as a member of their office force, began his career as a lawyer.

While a student in the university, Mr Ryden wrote two theses: the first in 1903, on "Some Phases of Life Insurance," and the second in 1905, on "Dedication of Land for Public Uses in Illinois."

In politics, Mr. Ryden is a Republican. He was town clerk of Evanston for four consecutive terms, beginning 1899. He is a member of the Methodist Church, and of the following fraternal organizations: the Free Masons, the Modern Woodmen of America; the National Union, and the Alpha Kappa Phi Law Fraternity.

Mr. Ryden is married to one of his former class mates. Her maiden name was Gertrude Louise Gibbs. She received her early training in the public schools of her native city, Chicago. She then attended Rockford College and was graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Science from the Northwestern University in 1905. Mr. and Mrs. Ryden have twin daughters, Alice Gertrude and Ruth Louise, born Nov. 9, 1906. They reside at 1910 Asbury ave., Evanston.

Mr. Ryden's business address is 1031–1037 Stock Exchange Bldg.

EMMY EVALD

was born Sept. 18, 1857, in Geneva, Ill. Her father was Dr. Erland Carlsson, the Lutheran pioneer, who was the pastor of Immanuel Swedish Ev. Lutheran Church in Chicago from 1853 until 1875. After receiving her early education at various schools in this country she went to Sweden and pursued her studies four years in Miss Fryxell's Woman's Academy, in Kalmar. On May 24, 1883, she was united in marriage to the Rev. C. A. Evald.

Few minister's wives are so well qualified as was Mrs. Evald for the many sided duties devolving upon the pastor's helpmate.

especially in a large metropolitan congregation. She is an ideal housewife intimately acquainted



EMMY EVALD

with all the details of a well-managed household, but her rare talent and energy have been devoted to more far-reaching endeavors. For twenty-four years Mrs. Evald has conducted a Sunday school class whose membership is far in excess of 300, with an average attendance of 200. Mrs. Evald, besides, for many years has been superintendent of the Sunday school's infant department. She is secretary of the Old Ladies' Sewing Society, president of Bethania, the women's insurance society, and vice-president of the Immanuel Woman's Home Association, executive of the Mission Society, president of the Young Ladies' Sewing Society and a member of the committee which directs the labors of the deaconess of Immanuel Church.

Through Mrs. Evald's energetic efforts the Woman's Mission Society of the Augustana Synod was organized in 1892. The first Swedish-American woman's club, aiming at the elevation of women intellectually and morally, was brought about by her initiative. She was a member of the Chicago Woman's club for two years.

At the World's Parliament of Religions, an auxiliary of the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago, 1893, Mrs. Evald was president of the Lutheran Woman's Congress. There were present representative women from Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Germany, Iceland and India, besides from six great Lutheran church organizations in this country. One of the results of this congress was the formation of the Lutheran Woman's International League, of which she was made president. In 1895 Mrs. Evald made an appeal for woman's suffrage before the State Legislature in Springfield, Ill., and on Sept. 18, 1897, spoke at the celebration of King Oscar's Jubilee, in the Auditorium, in Chicago. She was a representative of the Swedish women in this country, and in this capacity addressed the National Woman's Congress in Washington in 1898. The Swedish Woman's National Union, of which the Fredrika Bremer Association is a part, appointed Mrs. Evald to represent Sweden at the International Congress of Women at Washington

in 1902. Before this assembly she delivered an address in the House of Representatives. On many other notable occasions she has spoken publicly on various topics.

Mrs. Evald has two daughters, Anna Fidelia Christine, married to the Rev. C. Emanuel Hoffsten of New York City, and Frances Lillian Charlotta.

ERNEST HARALD MATHIAS YOUNGGREN

was born in Nottebäck parish, Småland, Sweden, Sept. 10, 1846.



ERNEST H. M. YOUNGGREN

He received his education in his native land, which he left in 1870, settling in Chicago, where he has since resided. Having learned the printer's trade in the old country, he immediately secured employment with the weekly *Hemlandet*. In 1877 he became foreman of the composing room. After twenty years' service he bought a linotype machine and contracted for the composition, thus modernizing the methods of the newspaper's typography.

Mr. Younggren was one of the organizers of the Scandia Building and Loan Association, and was director and treasurer for a number of years.

He was married in 1873, to Helena Sophia Holm from Mönsterås, Sweden, and resided at 1127 Roscoe st., Lake View.

In January, 1904, Mr. Younggren retired from business. Shortly afterward, Feb. 8, he died and was cremated at Graceland crematory.

MARTIN E. NELSON,

one of the most prominent contractors on the south side in Chicago, was born in Småland, Sweden, June 12, 1868. His father being a contractor, the son naturally took to that vocation. In 1868, however, he emigrated to America and settled down to work on a farm in Henry county, Illinois. This did not suit him, though, and he soon left for the western part of the country, where he resumed his old trade as contractor and builder. Being fond of travel, Mr. Nelson visited almost every state in the Union, but finally settled in Chicago, in the suburb of West Pullman, where he has a fine home. Besides being a contractor, in 1904 he was connected with the Calumet Lumber and Manufacturing Company in the capacity of su-

perintendent. One year later he resigned this position and organized the Nelson-Secord Construc-



MARTIN E. NELSON

tion Company of which he is president and treasurer. The company is doing an extensive business all over Chicago, as well as in other cities. Mr. Nelson also has had considerable experience in ship-building, having been employed for a number of years in the cabin department of F. W. Wheeler and Co., of West Bay City, Michigan.

Mr. Nelson was married in 1891 to Miss Christina Carstensen, and has four children, two boys and two girls. He is a member of several societies, such as the Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, and is a Past Master of Fides Lodge No. 842, Free Masons.

GUSTAF JOHNSON

was born in Säby, Visnum parish, province of Vermland, Sweden, May 21, 1845. He came to the United States in 1868, landing on June 1, with Chicago as his destination. Mr. Johnson witnessed the great Chicago fire of 1871. In the spring of 1874 he removed to Morris, Grundy co., Ill., where he engaged in the school and church furniture business. In 1880 Mr. Johnson lived for a short time in Cambridge and Geneseo, Henry co., Ill. During the same year he returned to Chicago. Since 1882 he has been in the laundry machine and hardware business at 68 E. Chicago ave.

He joined the Star Lodge, No. 75, of the Odd Fellows order



GUSTAF JOHNSON

in 1875, and has been a member of Frithiof Lodge No. 5, I. O. S., since 1891. In 1893 he was a delegate to the Grand Lodge of the Svithiod Order and has attended all subsequent Grand Lodge meetings in the same capacity. For four years he was Grand Treasurer. Mr. Johnson has belonged to the Svithiod Singing Club for twelve years and was for four years its treasurer. He has

been president of the Three Links Club. In 1891 he was vice-president of the Swedish Central Association.

Mr. Johnson was married in 1868. He has one son and three daughters, all of whom are married and live in Chicago.

JOHN E. TYDEN

was born March 3, 1867, in Småland, Sweden. He attended the



JOHN E. TYDEN

Swedish public schools, and came to America in April, 1866. Here he became engaged in the meat and grocery trade, and now has a meat market and sausage factory at 8822 Buffalo ave.

Mr. Tyden is a member of many societies, such as the Linnea, Gylfe Lodge No. 6 I. O. S., Alient No. 201 K. of P., Engelbrecht Lodge, and Windsor Park Lodge No. 836, A. F. and A. M.

A. G. ERNEST LINDSTROM

was born in the city of Kalmar, Sweden, Oct. 14, 1856. He attend-



A. G. ERNEST LINDSTROM

ed the public school and Kalmar high school. After completing his school studies he served for two years as designer in the cabinet works of his father, H. Lindström. After the death of the latter, the business was for four years conducted by the son. Mr. Lindstrom then went to New York, arriving in October, 1881. After a year's stay he removed to Chicago. For six years he was foreman with the Schick Co., manufacturers of cabinet work. After that time he engaged in business for himself on a small scale and made a specialty of high grade cabinet work. The output is now largely increased, and the firm name is Lindstrom & Oliver. The factory is at 192–200 N. Union st.

Mr. Lindstrom is a Lutheran. He is married to Maria Thranell

from Vestmanland, Sweden. The couple have two children, Ernst and Anna.

ENGELBRECHT NELSON

was born in Sweden Aug. 18, 1866. He emigrated to America



ENGELBRECHT NELSON

in 1889, after completing a high school course. He located in Chicago and was for some time employed as a chemist in the laboratory of the Illinois Steel Co., in South Chicago. Later he became chief chemist at the North Works of the same corporation. Mr. Nelson afterward attended the medical college of the University of Illinois, and is now a practicing physician in South Chicago.

Dr. Nelson is a member of several medical societies of Chicago and Illinois, and is one of the rising Swedish-American physicians of the city. As a fraternity man he is affiliated with the Calumet Commandery of the Knight Templars and of the Oriental Consistory of the Valley of Chicago.

CHARLES BOSTROM

was born in Boda, Vermland, Sweden, Dec. 27, 1872. His father, Johannes Jönson, was a farmer in good circumstances, and the son received a good education. He early took a liking to the industrial arts, and at the age of seventeen commenced to work at the carpenter's trade, which he pursued until 1892, when the desire to test the opportunities of the West brought him to America. He settled in Ishpeming, Mich., and found that his expectations had been greater than the realization. He secured employment for a few weeks as a hod-carrier, but when his training as a carpenter was made known, he secured employment in that line, at times, however, working as a mason, until he moved to Chicago in 1894. He



CHARLES BOSTROM

there entered into partnership with Mr. Nordvall as a contractor, continuing his connection with him until 1896, when he, together with Magnus Olson, formed the contracting firm of Bostrom & Olson, 1988 N. Clark st., which is doing a prosperous business, building from fifty to seventy-five houses a year, besides dealing extensively in realty.

In 1901 Mr. Bostrom was married to Miss Emma Carlson from the city of Örebro, Sweden, and their union has been blessed with one daughter.

He is a member of the Swedish National Association, and of the Oconto Pleasure Club, of which latter he has served as vice-president and director.

CARL H. J. CHRISTENSON, minister of the Augustana Synod of the Lutheran church, was born Feb. 6, 1867, in the parish of Askome, Halland, Sweden, the son of Nels Christenson, a laborer. In the year 1880, he came to this country, settling in Portland, Conn. Entering Augustana College in the '80s, he graduated with the college class of '92, and subsequently became a divinity student at the same institution, graduating from the Theological Seminary in 1896. The same year he was ordained minister and took charge of the Swedish Lutheran Church at Lincoln, Neb. While there Rev. Mr. Christenson was a member of the board of directors of Luther Academy, at Wahoo, Neb., for one year, and also pursued post-graduate studies for two years at the University of Nebraska.



CARL HENNING JULIUS CHRISTENSON

In 1900 he assumed charge of the Swedish Lutheran Church at Geneva, Ill, serving there until 1905, when he was called to the Saron Swedish Lutheran Church of Chicago, his present charge.

While serving the Geneva church Mr. Christenson was a member of the Board of Education for three years and was an active promoter of the Geneva Conservatory of Music, serving as president and treasurer, respectively. In that period his church erected a splendid edifice at a cost of $15,000.

Mr. Christenson has served as president of the Luther League of Illinois for two years and of the Fox River Valley District of that organization for a like period. He is now a member of the board of directors of the Salem

Home for the Aged, founded at Joliet, Ill., by the Illinois Conference of the Augustana Synod.

The Rev. Mr. Christenson on May 27, 1897, was united in marriage to Miss Ada Davida Johnson, daughter of S. A. Johnson, of Rockford. There are three children, Maud Genevieve, born 1898, Carl Irving, born 1900, and Vera Marie, born 1902.

LOUIS CARSON

was born in Grenna, Småland, Sweden, Aug. 8, 1865, and came



LOUIS CARSON

to America in 1885. He lived one year in St. Charles, Ill., and then moved to Chicago. There he has been working at the trade of stair builder and interior finisher since the year 1890. His shop is at 51 Institute place. Mr. Carson is a member of the Elim Swedish Methodist Church of Lake View.

In 1893 Mr. Carson married Miss Amanda Carlson, and their union has been blessed with two children, Raymond and Alice. They reside at Irving Park Boulevard and Janssen ave.

JOHN M. BERGLING

was born in By parish, Dalarne, Sweden, Oct. 15, 1866. He re-



JOHN M. BERGLING

ceived his education in Sundsvall until 1880, when he, together with his father, John E. Bergling, a tailor by trade, came to this country. He early showed signs of artistic talent. It was especially recognized by the superintendent of Blauer's Watch Case Co., who entered him in the engraving department of the firm. Mr. Bergling's progress was unusually rapid. At the end of two years he took part in a competition of watch case engravers and won with the highest honors. For swiftness and good workmanship he was counted among the fore-

most in the country. He was subsequently given charge of the department.

In 1888 Mr. Bergling went to California and was in succession put at the head of several engraving departments among which was that of the San Jose Watch Co. While in California, he served two years with the San Francisco Hussars. The World's Fair attracted him back to Chicago and in the fall of 1892 he secured a position with the large jewelry house of C. D. Peacock. The following year he was given charge of the engraving department, which position he holds at the present time.

Mr. Bergling was married Nov. 4, 1899. With his wife, who was Miss Fanny A. Eklund, of Stockholm, Sweden, he has two daughters.

SILAS P. MELANDER,

photographer, was born in Jönköping, Sweden, March 14, 1853. His parents emigrated to this country the following year and settled in Chicago being among the earliest Swedish inhabitants of the city. In 1866, after obtaining his elementary schooling, the son became a photographer's assistant, and two years later established himself as a photographer at 131 Lake st. Here he was burned out in the great fire of 1871, and re-established himself the next year at 88 N. Clark st. In 1879 Mr. Melander built the finest photograph studio in Chicago, located at 208 E. Ohio st., where he is still in business.

Mr. Melander is a member of the



SILAS P. MELANDER

Trinity English Lutheran Church, and of fraternal organizations he has chosen the I. O. O. F. At this date Mr. Melander is counted with the very few survivors of the Swedish colony in Chicago in the early fifties.

VICTOR A. BOVIK

was born in the city of Lysekil, Sweden, Aug. 26, 1867. He emigrated to America, landing on March 21, 1885. Proceeding to Joliet, Ill., he made his home there until 1888. From there he removed to Chicago, establishing himself as a merchant tailor. His present location is at 546 W. 63rd st. He belongs to the Svithiod Society and is a member of the Lutheran Church. Mr. Bovik was married April 2, 1892,

to Euphrosyne Holmgren. They have two sons, Conrad and Oliver.



VICTOR A. BOVIK

OTHO M. NORDENSTAM,

restaurant manager, now with the Morrison Hotel and Restaurant Co., formerly with the Kuntz-Remmler Co., is a native of Linderöd, Sweden, where he was born April 11, 1872, the son of Martin Ohlson and his wife, Kjersti Fajerson. He graduated from the high school in Linderöd, with the highest honors, then went to work in a store and afterward on the railroad. Subsequently he learned the cabinetmaker's trade at Höör and received his journeyman's diploma in Lund.

Coming to this country in April, 1893, he went to Minnesota, working and attending school in St. Paul and Montrose. A year later he came to Illinois. In this state he worked on a farm for two years and then went out to Nebraska, returning to Illinois after one year and a half and locating permanently in Chicago. While in Nebraska, Mr. Nordenstam took a course in the Y. M. C. A. business college in Omaha.

Obtaining a situation with the Kuntz-Remmler Company, Mr. Nordenstam during the eight years in their employ advanced to the position of manager of their restaurant at 305 Wabash ave. and secretary of the company, which position he held until January, 1906, when he resigned to take a position with the Morrison Hotel and Restaurant Company.

The following bodies claim Mr. Nordenstam as a member, namely:



OTHO MARTIN NORDENSTAM

St. Cecilia Lodge No. 865, Chicago Council No. 4, Corinthian Chapter No. 69, Columbia Commandery No. 63, all of the Masonic order; also the Royal Arcanum, Hyde Park Council No. 582.

Mr. Nordenstam's marriage to

Miss Anna McQuoid took place Dec. 31, 1902. Mrs. Nordenstam is a daughter of Daniel and Susannah McQuoid of Carthage, Ill., where she was born May 4, 1868. The couple reside at 6125 Drexel boulevard.

MARTHA SETTERGREN-HALL

was born in Hjo, Sweden, Dec. 16, 1867. Her father was a color



MARTHA SETTERGREN-HALL

sergeant in the Swedish army. She received a common school education in Sweden, and later took a course in a business college. In 1885 she emigrated to America, where she secured a position in Chicago as Swedish correspondent for P. Fahrney & Sons Co. This place she held until her marriage, July 12, 1890, to Mr. G. Robert Hall, proprietor of a tea and coffee concern, of which she is now the manager. The place of business is at 1764 N. Clark st.

Mrs. Hall has taken an active interest in women's organizations, and has been secretary of the Swedish-American Woman's Club of Chicago ever since its organization.

ADOLF PETTERSON-BERNHARDT

was born in 1866, at Malmö, Sweden. Having attended the collegiate school at Lund up to 1881, he went to Stockholm and there got a situation as clerk in the pharmacy known as "Elefanten." After passing the preliminary examinations in pharmacy in 1885, Mr. Petterson-Bernhardt served successively in Alfta, Malmö,



ADOLF PETTERSON BERNHARDT

Askersund and Norrköping. In 1889 he was admitted to the Pharmaceutical Institute in Stockholm and two years later received his degree in pharmacy. He was again engaged as a prescription

clerk, in the "Elefanten" pharmacy, in Stockholm until 1892, when he emigrated to America.

In this country he gained experience in American business methods in Rockford, Batavia and Chicago and in 1894 opened a drug store on Belmont ave., Chicago.

In 1898 Mr. Petterson-Bernhardt began the study of medicine at Rush Medical College and National Medical University. After three years' study he received the degree of M. D.

Dr. Petterson-Bernhardt successfully passed the examination of the State Board of Health immediately after his graduation in 1901, admitting him to general medical practice in this state. His office and place of business is at 1336 Belmont ave.

THEODOR S. JOHNSTON,

pastor of the Ebenezer Swedish Lutheran Church of Chicago, is the son of Andrew Johnson, a factory worker, who came over from Dalsland, Sweden, in 1869, and settled in Flintstone, Md. There the son was born March 12, 1871. Having subsequently lived for a time in Portland, Conn., the family returned to Sweden, where Mr. Johnson started a tannery at Orbol, in the parish of Ryr. The family emigrated for the second time in 1886, after the son had obtained his early schooling and been confirmed in Sweden. The Johnsons now settled at Paw Paw, W. Va., not far from Cumberland, Md., and were the only Swedes in the locality. There young Johnson worked in the fac-



THEODOR S. JOHNSTON

tories and also attended the public schools. The family in 1889 moved to Pennfield, Pa., and later to Dubois, Pa. Finally, in 1891, the family settled in Titusville, Pa., where the old folks still have their home.

In 1894 Theodor entered the second class at Augustana College, graduating with college class of 1900. Completing the divinity courses at the same institution in three years, he was ordained to the ministry at Paxton, Ill., June 14, 1903, having been called to the Ebenezer Church, which he still serves. At this juncture he added a "t" to his name for practical reasons. Rev. Johnston took charge of a congregation of 56 communicant members, owning no appreciable church property. After four years of labor in his

field, the church numbered upwards of 500 communicant members and its property, comprising a fine parsonage and a partly completed church edifice, had a value of about $26,000.

The Reverend Mr. Johnston was married July 25, 1905, to Miss Victoria Johnson, daughter of Swan and Inga Christina Johnson of Millers, Ind. Mrs. Johnston is a graduate of the normal department of Valparaiso College and taught public school for a short period.

NILS F. OLSON

came to Chicago from Killeberg, Skåne, Sweden, in 1868, a penni-



NILS F. OLSON

less boy of fifteen years, alone and with no one to assist him. He went to work in a bookbindery as errand boy, learned the trade, attended school during evenings and studied the higher branches under private tutors. In 1877, at the age of twenty-four years, he started in business for himself, in partnership with Peter Johnson, and for ten years successfully conducted a large and prosperous bookbinding business. While thus engaged, he bought and sold real estate and was one of the first Swedes to plat and lay out a large subdivision in Chicago.

In 1887 he sold his interest in the business and for three years devoted his time to real estate and traveling, visiting Europe twice during these three years. The last time he spent a whole year on an extended tour of every country in Europe.

A life of idleness was not to his liking and, returning to Chicago in 1890, he took up the study of law in the Northwestern College of Law and in the Kent College of Law, from which he graduated with honor in the spring of 1893, and has since given his time and energy to the legal profession with an ambition that has characterized his every undertaking. He was a skillful mechanic, an alert businessman, especially in the handling of Chicago realty, and in the legal profession, his success has been on a par with his efforts in other directions. The experience gained by him during his somewhat varied career is a valuable help to him in the practice of law. His office is at 160 Washington street.

Mr. Olson, in 1889, married Charlotte Lundh, a young lady

of Swedish birth, who has distinguished herself both as an educator and as an artist. She was the first Swedish woman in Chicago to gain the position of principal in the Chicago schools and for six years had charge of one of the largest schools in this city. As an artist she ranks well to the front and her pictures have been often seen at art exhibitions, invariably receiving honorable mention. She was also the first Swedish lady to be elected a member of the Chicago Woman's Club.

CHARLES G. CARLSON

has lived in Chicago since 1891. With Peter O. and Eric Holmquist he established the firm of Holmquist & Co., manufacturers of ladders and household woodenware. In 1897 he entered upon the manufacture of curtain stretchers, and organized the Chicago Curtain Stretcher Co., of which firm he is the president and secretary. At that time, curtain stretchers were a new thing, and to introduce the article to the trade cost considerable effort, but the company has succeeded well and has largely increased its output during the short time it has been doing business. It now sends goods to all parts of the United States, as well as abroad, and the factory is running full capacity all the year round at 100–108 North Lincoln street.



CHARLES G. CARLSON

Mr. Carlson was born in Finnerödja, Skaraborgs län, Sweden, Dec. 13, 1871, and was married in Chicago May 15, 1895, to Miss Maria L. Johanson, also from Finnerödja. They have two children, a boy of eleven and a girl of nine years of age. They live at 502 Cornelia st.

SOPHIA C. YOUNG

was born at Lindsborg, Kansas, March 13, 1875. She is a daughter of John Swanström and his wife Christina, née Håkanson, who were early settlers in that locality. Her public school courses completed, she attended Bethany College at Lindsborg, studying literature and elocution. She came to Chicago in 1895 to enter the Columbia School of Oratory (now Columbia College of Expression), and was graduated from that school in 1897. While completing her course she taught privately, also filling engagements for public readings. For one year, 1897–98, she was a teacher of the art of

expression and of physical culture at Augustana College, leaving her positoin just prior to her marriage,



SOPHIA C. YOUNG

May 31, 1898, to Dr. Carl O. Young of Chicago.

Mrs. Young is active in social and club circles, holding membership in a number of organizations, such as the Swedish-American Woman's Club, the Woodlawn Woman's Club, the South Side Woman's Club and Drottning Sophias Förening of Stockholm, a benevolent society organized by the Queen of Sweden. Mrs. Young was the prime mover in the organization of the Sophia Aid Society of the Washington Park Hospital, a woman's association for benevolent purposes. She is president of the Martha Washington Aid Society of the Washington Park Hospital. In 1900 she was one of the organizers of the Bethany Association of Chicago, and in 1906 was elected second vice-president of the Swedish National Association of Chicago.

After her marriage Mrs. Young did not entirely discontinue her public readings, but limited herself to participation in entertainments for purely charitable purposes.

Mrs. Young has two children, Viola and Stanley.

ALEX J. JOHNSON,

editor and publisher of *Svenska Kuriren*, was born near Stockholm, in 1850. He obtained a school and college education in that city and in 1868 was admitted to Upsala University,



ALEX J. JOHNSON

where he studied law for two years. Upon his deciding on a business career, he spent six years in Germany and France and traveled extensively in South Africa, Madagascar and the French

colonies for a mercantile house in Marseilles.

Mr. Johnson came to this country and to Chicago in 1882. For a short time he was employed by the dry goods house of C. W. and E. Pardridge and then for five years he held a position with the crockery firm of Burley and Tyrrell. He then acquired control of *Svenska Kuriren*, a Swedish weekly newspaper, of which he has ever since been the editor and publisher. Having had a taste for newspaper work from his youth and being equipped with a practical education, Mr. Johnson made a success of the enterprise from the start.

He has taken a keen interest in politics, but beyond being a member of the Republican State Central Committee, he has never held a political office. From his home county, DuPage, he has been sent as a delegate to state conventions on several occasions. The subject of American politics probably no Swedish newspaper man has mastered so well as he.

In 1880, Mr. Johnson was married to Marie Antoinette Solberg, from Oscarshamn, Sweden. Two daughters and two sons have been born to them. The eldest daughter, Hilma, was married in 1901, to Julius Dahlstrom, general agent of the St. Joseph & Grand Island Railroad Company in Denver, Colorado. The Johnson family have a comfortable home at Glen Ellyn, Ill.

JOHN E. YOUNGBERG

was born in Östad, Halland, Sweden. The name usually is spelled Ljungberg, being derived from the name of the parish of Ljungby. The family moved to the United States when he was four years old and located at



JOHN E. YOUNGBERG

Keokuk, Iowa, later at Davenport, Rock Island, and finally at Moline, Ill., where he attended public school.

At the age of fourteen he was sent to Kansas on a ranch in Riley co., but finding cattle dull companions, he, after a few years, began the trade of furniture making at Atchison, Kansas. Later he spent four years at Topeka, Kansas, with the Atchinson, Topeka and Santa Fe R. R. In 1887 a local architect discovered latent artistic talent in the young man and his career as an architect thus began. The Topeka field was too limited for the student,

and Kansas City, Mo., was the next station in his dream of the art loving East and the Paris school of Architecture. He remained in the branch office of Burnham and Root of Kansas City until 1889, when he attracted the attention of the celebrated architect John W. Root, who employed him on important construction work on many of the high office buildings in Chicago until the World's Columbian Exposition, where Mr. Youngberg had charge of the construction of many of the buildings. In recognition of this he was presented with a memorial certificate of his services to the Exposition by the directors.

After the Exposition Mr. Youngberg spent several years in extensive travel and study in Europe. The winters of 1893 and 1894 were spent in the study of architecture and decorations in the atelier of Godefroy and Freynet and he passed the examinations for architecture, modeling and drawing in L'Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris. While in Athens, Greece, in 1894, he made measured drawings of the Academy of Sciences and later in Paris made a water color rendering of it which was accepted and exhibited in the Salon des Champs Elysées in 1895.

Mr. Youngberg has practiced in Chicago since 1896, during which time he has constructed residences, business buildings and factories, and in 1901 he designed the Colonial Club House, 4445 Grand Boulevard, of which club he is a member.

PETER GUSTAF ALMBERG

was born on the 18th of Feb., 1858, at Bengtstorp, near Elmhult,



PETER GUSTAF ALMBERG

Sweden. He studied at the high school at Hvilan, and also attended military schools. His father, O. P. Almberg, was a lumber merchant, who died in Elmhult May 1, 1900. In Sweden, the son learned the engineer's and the machinist's trade.

In June, 1883, he came to this country, landing at Quebec, and went first to Fargo, N. D., and worked as engineer for two years for the Pillsbury and Hulbert Elevator Company. Coming to Chicago in December, 1885, he worked here for two years as engineer and machinist. Since 1888, Mr. Almberg is a book and job printer at 62 E. Chicago ave., doing business under the firm name

P. G. Almberg and Co., est. 1888. He is an adherent of the Lutheran Church and belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Royal Arcanum, Independent Order of Svithiod, Vikings, Foresters, Maccabees and several other societies. He has been president, vice-president, secretary and trustee in several of these societies.

Nov. 24, 1887, Mr. Almberg was united in marriage with Miss Anna M. Larson, of Moorhead, Minn., born June 22, 1867. They have six children, Hilda, Olga, Hans Edward, Anna, Clara, and Axel William.

LAWRENCE HESSELROTH,

the well-known druggist, now deceased, was one of the Swedish-American pioneers of Chicago. He was born in Bråsäter parsonage, in Dalsland, Sweden, Nov. 25, 1844. His father, who was a clergyman, died when Lawrence was but three years old, and only three years afterwards his mother died, leaving the young boy practically alone in the world. His brother-in-law, who was a clergyman, took an interest in young Hesselroth, however, and provided him with an education. Thus Mr. Hesselroth learned the rudiments of pharmacy from C. W. Weinberg, a druggist in Åmål, and later on was in the employ of J. A. Wallin, in Falköping, until 1864, when he passed the pharmaceutical examination. In the spring of the same year he emigrated and came direct to Chicago. He had not been in the city long before a singular opportunity presented itself. An American whose patriotism was rather lukewarm offered young Hesselroth $300 if he would enlist in the U. S. navy in his place. Mr. Hesselroth accepted the proposition and soon he was aboard the U. S. Cruiser Kenwood, No. 14, of the Mississippi Squadron,



LAWRENCE HESSELROTH

serving not only as the "Doctor's Steward," but also as the ship's apothecary. Mr. Hesselroth remained on the Kenwood until the spring of 1865, when he returned to Chicago. He afterwards worked in Rockford, Ill., St. Paul and Red Wing, Minn. Returning to Chicago, however, in 1869, he was employed with a Norwegian druggist, named Foss, on Chicago ave. In December, 1871, two months after the Chicago fire, he formed a partnership with Carl Weinberg and opened a drug

store at 53 E. Chicago ave., this being the first Swedish drug store established in the U. S. In 1878, he sold his interest and started another drug store, at 107 E. Chicago ave., where he conducted a thrifty business for a long term of years, making the corner a landmark in the Swedish colony on the north side. There are few Swedes in Chicago, or the United States, who have not heard the name Hesselroth, or who do not know of his well-known "Crown" series of Swedish family remedies.

Mr. Hesselroth was a 32nd degree Mason, and a charter member of King Oscar Lodge and a member of other fraternities. He served as president of the Swedish Glee Club, of which organization he was elected honorary member.

He was married to Miss Sofia Mathilda Blom in 1872, and died Feb. 29, 1904.

CHARLES E. HALLBERG,

marine painter, was born of very poor parents, in Göteborg, Sweden, Jan. 15, 1855. Not long after, his father died, leaving the family almost penniless. Charles had to take a hand early in the support of himself, his mother and sister, leaving little time over for attending public school.

At twelve years of age he saw a couple of water color paintings in the home of a playmate. These attracted him so that he begged for the loan of the bits of color that he might copy them. From that time he has been passionately fond of sketching and painting, though it took many years before he was enabled to



CHARLES EDWARD HALLBERG

devote serious attention to that work.

At the age of seventeen, Mr. Hallberg went to sea, on board a British brig, and for ten years he served before the mast under various flags. In 1883 he landed in this country and for the next seven years sailed on the Great Lakes. During these seventeen years he imbibed that love for the water which is evidenced by every creation of his brush. He always carried with him on ship board palette and supplies, and spent his spare moments in making rude sketches of the sea as he saw it in storm and calm.

In 1890 Mr. Hallberg settled down in Chicago and was employed as janitor in an apartment house in LaSalle ave. About

this time there was held a bazaar for the benefit of Augustana Hospital in Chicago, and Mr. Hallberg, after some hesitation, decided to donate one of his pictures to the cause. The canvas was unsigned and the gift anonymous, but it attracted attention and was sold for fifteen dollars. To the self-taught janitor-artist this was real encouragement. He began to consider how he might acquire an artistic education, but with a wife and children to support on meager wages the thing looked impossible.

After a year or two we find Mr. Hallberg as janitor of the Austin State Bank and an adjoining apartment building. There he continued to give his spare time to the palette and brush. A little four by five room in the basement of the bank building, sparingly lit up by a transom window, served as a studio, and here Janitor Hallberg painted marines when he was not stoking the furnaces or sweeping floors. Here also it was that the janitor-artist was "discovered," as told in another part of this volume.

From that time on Mr. Hallberg's name has been brought frequently before the public and his work has met with much encouragement and appreciation in artistic circles. His greatest triumph, however, was to have his "Summer Day on Lake Michigan" accepted by the national art jury of the St. Louis Exposition. Of the numerous Chicago artists only nineteen were there represented, and among these Lindin and Hallberg were the only Swedish-Americans whose works were hung in the general art hall.

Some years ago Mr. Hallberg visited Sweden and was cordially received in his native city of Göteborg, where several of his paintings were exhibited and the modest artist met with appreciation on the part of the artists and the press.

Omitting what has been said of Mr. Hallberg elsewhere in this work, we may add that he has donated his painting, "After the Storm," to Augustana College and a biblical marine, entitled "Christ Walking on the Water," to Augustana Hospital.

Jan. 21, 1885, Mr. Hallberg was married to Amanda Josefina Olson of Göteborg. They have three children, Ellen Hermina, born 1887, Sylvia Helena, born 1890, and Austin Benjamin, born 1892. The family attend the Swedish Lutheran church. Mr. Hallberg is a member of the Swedish-American Art Association of Chicago, the Chicago Society of Artists, and others.

FRED R. FRANSON

hails from the Swedish manufacturing town of Motala, in Östergötland. In 1879, on the fourth of July, he arrived on American soil, having since been a resident of Chicago for more than twenty-five years. For the past fifteen years Mr. Franson has taken great interest in the Swedish singing clubs and fraternal organizations of the

city. He has ever been a prominent member of the Svithiod Singing Club, having held the



FRED R. FRANSON

presidency of that organization for some ten years. He is the possessor of a splendid baritone voice, which has often been heard in solo parts at concerts and entertainments. He was one of the hardest workers for the success of the Swedish Day at the World's Fair in Chicago, and likewise a leading promoter of the concert tour through Sweden made in 1897 by a picked chorus from the American Union of Swedish Singers. Of the latter organization he is also an influential member.

Mr. Franson has been connected with the Illinois Central railway as skilled mechanic for nearly a score of years. For a short time he held the Scandinavian general agency for the Equitable Life Assurance Society.

ELOF JOHNSON

was born July 24, 1852, in Qvinhult, Traheryd parish, Sweden. His father was a farmer and what time Elof did not spend at school he put in assisting in the tilling of the soil and doing the chores. At the age of eighteen he traveled about peddling notions. In the spring of 1871 he emigrated to the United States. Reaching Chicago, he worked a year in a factory. Subsequently he went into the teaming business, continuing until 1876. Since that time Mr. Johnson has owned and conducted a grocery business, enjoying a thriving trade at 314 Austin ave. and at 141 W. Huron st. He was married in



ELOF JOHNSON

1882 to Miss Sigrid Mathilda Peterson, also a native of Traheryd parish. She died in 1890 leaving three sons, Elof Allen Ragnar, Axel Sigwald Reuben and Harald John Francis.

WALDEMAR G. THORSELL was born in Torshälla, Sweden, Feb. 24, 1870, the son of Gustaf



WALDEMAR GUSTAF THORSELL

and Albertina Larson. In his youth he enjoyed a common school and high school education in his native town. He worked in factories in various parts of Sweden before coming to the United States in 1895. Locating in Chicago he was for a time employed as a furniture worker and upholsterer, including two years with the National Parlor Furniture Co.

Abandoning that trade, he began work as a grinder, and soon he became the owner of a grinder's shop at 146 S. Clark st., in which, by steady application, he has worked up all the custom that can well be handled in the present quarters. A few large houses, such as Marshall Field & Co., are giving his shop the bulk of all the work it can turn out. It was in 1900 that Mr. Thorsell established his own business, and in May, 1904, he took a business partner, the firm being now known as Thorsell & DeVry.

June 18, 1898, Mr. Thorsell was married to Miss Blenda Maria Sundström, born at Haparanda, Sweden, Feb. 12, 1871. She came over in 1893, as an attaché of the Swedish section at the World's Columbian Exposition. They have a daughter, Blenda Lillian, born April 18, 1899.

In 1906 the family moved out to the suburb of Palos Park, where Mr. Thorsell built a cottage, Ekhamra, on a pretty piece of acreage property in the woods.

The parents of Mr. Thorsell are still living in Torshälla, where his father has held the office of stadsfiskal for more than thirty years.

GUSTAF BRAMBERG,

the secretary-treasurer of the Anderson Tea Company, was born in 1867, in Stockholm, Sweden, where he, after having finished his schooling, served as clerk in two of the large retail stores in that city until 1887, when he came to America. After having tried his fortune in different occupations, such as mining, painting and clerking in a hotel, in various parts of the country, he finally concentrated his energies on the tea business, serving first as manager for another house and afterwards establishing his own store. This he conducted until the year 1900, when he joined interests with W. F. Anderson and

incorporated the Anderson Tea Company, which is now one of the largest and best known retail



GUSTAF BRAMBERG

houses in its line in Chicago, with sixteen branch stores in different parts of the city.

C. F. KORSSELL,

physician and surgeon, was born at Korsberga parish, Småland, Sweden, April 8, 1863. Coming with the family to the United States at the age of nine years, he has since lived in this city. After attending the public schools he pursued studies at the Chicago Athenæum and Rush Medical College, graduating from the latter institution in 1886. Mr. Korssell was a practicing physician and surgeon until 1900, when he was appointed professor of medicine in the Chicago College of Physicians and Surgeons, and in 1902 he was appointed adjunct professor of operative surgery in the Medical School of the University of Illinois. Dr. Korssell is chief medical examiner for Chicago of the Washington Life Insurance Co., the Bankers' Life and Trust Co., the Fidelity Mutual Life Insurance Co., and also for a number of Swedish fraternal societies. Dr. Korssell at different periods has been connected as attending physician and surgeon with the Cook County Hospital, the St. Joseph's



C. F. KORSSELL

Hospital, the Swedish Home of Mercy and the Chicago Hospital.

FREDRIK HÖGFELDT

was born March 19, 1844, in Tisselskog, Dalsland, Sweden. After attending public school he began, at the age of thirteen, to learn the tailor's trade. At the age of twenty he went into business on his own account, continuing in this capacity until 1891, when he left Sweden, landing in America in September of that year and

coming directly to Chicago. For two years he was employed with Carver & McCoy, then opened a



FREDRIK HÖGFELDT

merchant tailoring shop of his own. He continues in the same business at 169 Oak st.

In 1870 Mr. Högfeldt was married to Sara Maria Jonasson from Rud, Ånimskog parish, in Dalsland. They have four sons and two daughters. Mr. and Mrs. Högfeldt belong to the Swedish Mission Church, which Mr. Högfeldt for a term of years has served in the capacity of deacon.

EDWARD H. OLSON

was born in Visby, Sweden, April 21, 1854, and at the age of fourteen became a clerk in a store in his native town. Two years later he went to sea on a sailing vessel. He was on salt water for nearly fifteen years, and a few years later attended the navigation school at Visby, and at intervals gained certificates successively as second mate, first mate and captain. He sailed as chief officer in vessels for five years, making voyages to all parts of the world. In 1882 he was acting quartermaster of the British steamship Nothing Hill, from Liverpool, which carried troops from Port Natal, South Africa, to Alexandria, Egypt, at the time the British bombarded Alexandria.

Later he became chief mate of the Swedish ship Elleholm, which sailed from Liverpool, bound for the West Indies, with a cargo of merchandise. Encountering severe storms in the Atlantic, the vessel sprang aleak and sank, all of the crew of eighteen men escaping in



EDWARD H. OLSON

boats, and were afterwards picked up by an English sailing vessel. In 1883–1884 he was chief mate of the Norwegian mission ship, Elieser, which sailed from London to Madagascar, Mauritius, Bonne-

curius, South America, Jamaica, West Indies, Shields, England, and from there to Stavanger, Norway, his vessel lying in Tamatave, Madagascar, when the French men-of-war bombarded the town. He also served on an Irish vessel, named Scotsman of Londonderry. He met with numerous other adventures, the narration of which would fill a good sized volume.

During a storm at night he fell from the top of a mast, receiving an injury to his back which caused him to abandon the sea.

In 1885 Mr. Olson came to Chicago to visit his brothers, and being favorably impressed, decided to make his home here. He worked as a painter in the town of Pullman five years, and clerked in Roseland for different firms. In 1895 he was employed in the city water office and in the spring of 1896 was elected supervisor of the Town of Hyde Park, holding the office for two terms.

He now conducts a gentleman's furnishing store at 11206 Michigan ave., under the firm name af E. H. Olson and Co., with his brother-in-law as partner in the business.

In 1904 Mr. Olson was elected County Commissioner on the Republican ticket.

He was married in 1886 to Jennie Sommanson from Tingsryd, Sweden.

Mr. Olson is a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Knights of Pythias, North American Union, and charter member of Palace Council No. 39, Royal League. He has served as treasurer in the South End Merchants' Association for a number of years and is a member of the Elim Swedish Lutheran Church of Pullman.

ERNEST A. KOHLER,

doctor of dental surgery, was born in Chicago Sept. 13, 1870, of



ERNEST A. KOHLER

Swedish parents. His father, Attorney John A. Kohler, settled in Chicago in 1868. Ernest secured his elementary education in the Chicago public schools, from which he graduated in 1887. He then began the study of dentistry in the office of Dr. Kester. After a year and a half, he tried other occupations, acting as machinist, drug clerk and grocery salesman. Subsequently he turned back to dentistry, and after completing a course was graduated in the spring of 1890 from the American College of Dental Surgery with the degree

of D. D. S. He at once opened an office and has since successfully practiced his profession in Chicago. His office is at 1206 Garfield boul. Dr. Kohler keeps abreast with his profession.

Sept. 26, 1894, he was married to Miss Elizabeth Hamilton, born in Canada Jan. 18, 1872.

ANDERS E. ANDERSON

was born at Tranås, Skåne, Sweden, Jan. 11, 1865. His father



ANDERS E. ANDERSON

was a prominent building contractor. After having attended the grammar and high school, Mr. Anderson emigrated in 1889, comming directly to Chicago. In 1890 he started in the real estate, loan and investment business, in which he has prospered. His office is in the Unity Building and he resides at the Lexington Hotel, Michigan ave. and 22d st.

Mr. Anderson is a member of King Oscar Lodge of Free Masons, of the Mystic Shrine and of the Iroquois Club.

CARL O. YOUNGQVIST

was born Aug. 21, 1872, in Ölmestad, Småland, a son of Johannes



CARL O. YOUNGQVIST

Gustafson, a stone mason. He attended the public school until he was twelve years old, when he had to begin earning his own living. Mr. Youngqvist left Sweden and went to Lafayette, Indiana, in March, 1893. Soon after he came to Chicago where he learned the custom tailor's trade. After working two years for C. Bäckstrom he went into partnership with him in 1900 under the firm name of Bäckstrom and Youngqvist. The shop is at 40 Wendell st. Mr. Youngqvist was married in 1898, to Miss Emma Christina Wiklund, with whom he has two children. Mr. and Mrs. Youngqvist are members of the Swedish Mission Church.

CARL O. BERGQUIST

was born in the town of Mönsterås, Småland, Sweden, June 9,



CARL OLOF BERGQUIST

1846. His parents were Johan P. Bergquist, a merchant, and Anna G. Bergquist.

At the age of sixteen he became a clerk in the post office at Mönsterås. He was twice appointed acting postmaster, and was made a postal clerk without the usual requisite of a college education.

In 1870 Mr. Bergquist emigrated to the United States. At first he worked in Riverside, which was then being laid out. Later he found employment in a furniture store on Randolph st. In January, 1871, he formed a partnership with Charles P. Holmberg, in the insurance business. Mr. Bergquist was a member of the Swedish military company, formed just after the great Chicago fire to aid in guarding the city. When Mr. Holmberg with others, purchased the book and publishing business in Chicago, owned by the Augustana Synod, Mr. Bergquist bought his interest in the insurance office. He has since acted as loan and mortgage broker as well as life and fire insurance agent. For many years he has had the agency for leading companies.

Mr. Bergquist is vice-president of the Engberg-Holmberg Publishing Co., and also of Skandia Loan and Investment Association.

With his wife, Wendla A. Bergquist, he has two daughters, Signe W. and Nanna G., and two sons, Carl B. and Hjalmar E. Bergquist. The sons are now associated with their father in the insurance business, the present style of the firm being, Carl O. Bergquist and Sons, their office being located at 213 E. Chicago ave. Carl B. Bergquist is also a mining broker, with headquarters at Encampment, Wyoming.

NILS BERGMAN,

physician and surgeon, was born April 11, 1862, in the city of Venersborg, Sweden. There he graduated with the degree of A. B. from the Venersborg Elementary School, and during the following three years studied art subjects in Stockholm and literary and medical subjects in Göteborg. He arrived in Chicago in the spring of 1886, resuming medical studies in various hospitals and at the Chicago Homeopathic Medical College, which he entered in 1889. The following years up to his gradua-

tion in 1892 he spent as interne in hospitals in Chicago.

In 1893 he went abroad to the European medical centers to com-



NILS BERGMAN

plete his medical education. During that year he studied in London, Berlin, Vienna and elsewhere.

During his European sojourn he was married in Florence, Italy, to Miss Tekla E. Björkman, daughter of C. A. and Helena Björkman. They now have two children, Norna and Eric, two having died at a tender age.

After returning to the States, Dr. Bergman moved to Dwight, Ill., and settled down to practice. In November, 1900, he removed to Joliet, and in the summer of 1904 he returned to Chicago, where he is now practicing, with office at 319 Winthrop ave.

Dr. Bergman belongs to the church of the New Jerusalem, north side parish. He is a member of the American Institute of Homeopathy, the Illinois Homeopathic Medical Association, and other professional organizations. He is a member of Ashlar Lodge No. 308, A. F. and A. M. Dr. Bergman was assistant house physician at the Lincoln Park Sanitarium and Hospital 1889–93 and is now connected with the Hering Homeopathic Medical College as professor and lecturer in theory of practice, the appointment dating from 1904.

C. A. TIDEN

was born in Sollefteå, Ångermanland, Sweden, on June 15, 1850. At the age of seventeen years he began to learn the watchmaker's trade with Alfred Grön-



C. A. TIDEN

lund in Sundsvall. After his apprenticeship was over he went to Göteborg and was employed four years by C. L. Malmsjö. From there he returned to Northern Sweden and then went to Stock-

holm where he was in the service of J. W. Grönbäck. In 1879 he made a tour of Denmark and Germany and continued his journey until he landed in New York in the latter part of May, 1879. After a few months he came to Chicago where he has since been located with the exception of three years spent in Milwaukee, Wis. Mr. Tiden was seven years in the employ of J. S. Townsend, 1554 Wabash ave. He subsequently served ten years with the C. D. Peacock jewelry house. In 1900 he obtained a position as watchmaker with Spaulding & Co., corner Jackson and State streets, which position he still retains.

CARL M. ALLSTRÖM

was born Oct. 18, 1833, in Fellingsbro parish, Nerike, Sweden.



CARL MAGNUS ALLSTRÖM

He attended school at Örebro and Upsala.

In 1870 he came to America. In the city of Chicago he has has served as clerk in the Chicago Post-office and in the Newberry Library.

After making researches for nine years he completed a genealogy of all the royal houses of Europe from the earliest down to the present time. The title of the book is "Dictionary of Royal Lineage," and it was published in 1904, in two volumes, a second edition coming out in 1907.

In 1873 Mr. Allström was wedded to Miss Olivia Mathilda Sundholm, born in 1854 at Öfverum, Sweden. They have five children, of whom one daughter, Della, was married in 1903, to Rev. Wilmot Colsom Stone of Newport News, Va.; a son, Oliver, who married Sarah Davis from Wales, England, in 1904, is a poet, having had a book of poems published under the title, "Chords from a Strange Lyre." Their other children are James, Anna and Alice.

GUSTAF BERGSTROM

was born in Ronneby, Blekinge, Sweden, Sept. 18, 1863. Emigrating from Sweden he came directly to Chicago, arriving here in the latter part of April, 1886.

He entered the custom vest manufacturing trade and learned it thoroughly. Then, in 1895, Mr. Bergstrom embarked in business for himself as a custom vest maker and has since continued in that line with success.

His large establishment, with



GUSTAF BERGSTROM

its hundred busy workers, is located at 157 Gault court.

JOHN G. PRINCELL

is one of the eminent figures in the so-called Free Church movement, whose adherents are generally known as Mission Friends. Moreover, he is the virtual founder of that branch of the Mission Church known as the Swedish Evangelical Free Mission, in contradistinction to the other groups of Mission churches, known as the Mission Covenant and the Swedish Congregationalists. The part Princell has played as a churchman having been dealt with under its proper head in the historical part of the present work, this sketch is confined to the personal features of his eventful career.

John Gustaf Princell was born in Tolg parish, Småland, Sweden, Sept. 18, 1845. In July, 1856, he came with his parents to this country. After a stay of a year and three months in Chicago, the family removed to Princeton, Ill., where they lived for eight years.

In the fall of 1862, Princell, then a youth of seventeen, went to Chicago to enter the theological seminary maintained by the Augustana Synod. This step was taken in connection with his spiritual regeneration, which took place the same year. He preached his first sermon on the last Sunday of the year in the Swedish Lutheran Church of Princeton. Shortly after his arrival in Chi-



JOHN GUSTAF PRINCELL

cago he undertook to teach a class of boys in the Sunday school of the Immanuel Church. With his pupils, who were almost his own age, he succeeded remarkably well, and as a result he was frequently asked to preach or to read from the pulpit sermons by Luther,

Rambach and others. Upon the removal of the school to Paxton, Princell continued his studies there up to the spring of 1867, when he obtained a situation in the business office of *Hemlandet* and the Lutheran Publication Society in Chicago. At New Year's, 1869, he became associate editor of the paper. He soon abandoned this work owing to weak eyes, and in the fall of that year he took up studies at the old Chicago University, continuing until the following summer, meanwhile supplying the pulpit of the Salem Church. From the fall of 1870 to the spring of 1872 he pursued studies at the German-American Lutheran theological seminary in Philadelphia. After graduating from the latter institution, he was ordained by the Pennsylvania Ministerium in May, 1872, and accepted a call from the Swedish Lutheran Church in Campello, Mass. Besides his duties in that field, he carried on mission work in Boston, preaching there every Sunday evening. In January, 1873, he assumed charge of the Gustaf Adolf Church in New York City, where he labored until the spring of 1879. Both of these fields he had visited frequently while a student at Philadelphia.

At the annual meeting of the Augustana Synod in 1878, Rev. Princell was suspended from the ministry for teachings at variance with the Lutheran doctrine of vicarious atonement. As early as the later '60s he had come into intimate contact with the Mission Friends in Chicago and in 1877 had wholly endorsed the doctrine of atonement, as taught by Waldenström, which had created a schism and defection in the Lutheran State Church of Sweden. Later he also accepted the principle to admit to membership in in the church or participation in the communion only such persons as confessed actual conversion.

The suspension was for one year, or until the next synodical meeting. Princell, however, continued in charge of his church, maintaining that as no notice or warning had been given the action was illegal, and, furthermore, that as his church was not an integral part of the synod, it had no weight. The congregation was content to have him remain as its pastor. At the New Year's meeting of the church, a resolution embodying Princell's idea of reform in the matter of members and communicants was submitted and carried. But at an adjourned meeting held a month later the same resolution was reconsidered and voted down by about 70 votes to 35. Rev. Princell was invited to retain his position under the old order of things, but this he would not do, so he resigned. When he left the church three months later, 42 of its members determined to withdraw, and 27 of these, with the pastor, organized the Bethesda Church in Brooklyn on March 5. This action marked the actual withdrawal of Rev. Princell from the Swedish Lutheran Augustana Synod, although he did not preach his fare-

well sermon until two months later.

He labored in Brooklyn and New York that spring, also visiting Campello, where the pulpit had been vacated and a defection was going on. Shortly afterward Princell was called to the regular Lutheran pastorate in Campello and removed there just before making a summer visit to Sweden. On the first Sunday after his return in October he was forbidden the pulpit and immediately repaired to a hall, where the free brethren met. Thus, in an irregular manner the call was withdrawn. Princell continued to preach alternate weeks to the separated groups in Campello-Boston and New York-Brooklyn until the summer of 1880.

In the meantime two calls had been extended to him—one from the Tabernacle Mission Church in Minneapolis, the other from Ansgarius College of Knoxville, Ill., then under the control of an independent association. The latter he accepted, continuing at the head of this school until 1884, when, owing to the dissolution of the Ansgarius Synod, the institution ceased to exist. Thereupon he was editor of *Chicago-Bladet* for five years. In the fall of 1889 he began publishing a religious monthly entitled *Frihet och Frid*, dividing his time between that publication and the vocation of a traveling evangelist. In 1892 the magazine was discontinued, Princell pursuing mission work exclusively until 1894. Then, for two years, he was pastor of the Free Mission Church in Minneapolis, but was compelled to abandon pastoral work owing to defective hearing.

When a Bible Institute was opened in 1897, under the auspices of the Free Mission, at Oak St. Mission Hall in Chicago, Princell was engaged as the principal lecturer, and is still continuing in this work.

Rev. Princell is a scholarly gentleman, who spends a large part of his time in his own well-stocked library. Besides his voluminous contributions to the columns of *Chicago-Bladet*, he has written a History of the Jews (688 pp.) and translated into English several of P. Waldenström's writings, viz., "Jesu blod," "Försoningens betydelse" and "Herren är from." It should be added that Mrs. Princell, who is a woman of literary talent, has proved an efficient helpmeet to her husband in his religious and educational work as well as his literary pursuits.

Rev. Princell is a forceful public speaker and is generally accorded a place among the foremost Swedish-American pulpit orators and Bible exponents.

O. NELSON VERENIUS

was born in Sweden, June 25, 1876. He came to America in October, 1899, and lived in Oakland, Cal., from 1899 until 1901. In September of that year he began studying at North Park College, and is a graduate of its divinity school. Having been

ordained to the ministry he assumed the pastorate of the Swedish Mission Church of the East Side Station, South Chicago.



O. NELSON VERENIUS

In 1906, he withdrew from his church and in June, 1907, was ordained as minister in the Augustana Synod. Rev. Mr. Verenius is pastor of the First Swedish Lutheran Church at Racine, Wis.

Oct. 12, 1904, he was married to Miss Marie Sorlie from Sioux City, Iowa. She graduated from the music department of North Park College.

ALFRED A. NORTON

was born on his father's farm in the province of Vermland, Sweden, and came to the United States in the year 1886. He attended the Central High School in Minneapolis, Minn., and subsequently entered the University of Minnesota, graduating with the degree of Bachelor of Science in 1897 and with that of Bachelor of Laws two years later from the law department of the same institution. In 1902, Mr. Norton opened an office in Chicago and has been engaged in the practice of law here since that time. His present office is at 1518 Ashland Block.

Mr. Norton is well-known in Swedish fraternal circles, being a member of the King Oscar lodge, A. F. and A. M., the John Ericsson lodge, I. O. O. F., and of the Nore lodge of the Independent Order of Svithiod.

He is affiliated with the People's Liberal Church of Englewood. For several years past, Mr. Norton has taken an active interest



ALFRED A. NORTON

in the work toward the support of the Swedish Old People's Home at Park Ridge, and he is now vice-president of the Swedish Societies' Central Association, the organization by which that institution is maintained.

JOSEPHINE PRINCELL

was born in Råneå, Norrbotten, Sweden, Oct. 12, 1844. She is



JOSEPHINE PRINCELL

the daughter of C. A. Lind, who was an officer in the Swedish army, and his wife, Johanna Larson, both deceased. She attended a private school for girls in Stockholm, and later completed the course of studies at the Royal Seminary for the training of teachers for higher schools for girls. Having graduated in 1864, she taught for nine years in a public school in Stockholm.

In 1873 she came to the United States for the purpose of studying the American public school system. She visited Boston, New York and Philadelphia, subsequently reporting her observations to the board of public schools of Stockholm, her report appearing in one of the principal newspapers of Sweden.

She remained in the United States on a two years' leave of absence, and then resigned her teacher's position in Stockholm to settle in Boston. There she married Rev. J. G. Princell and afterward followed her husband to New York City, where he had pastoral charge of the Gustaf Adolf Swedish Lutheran Church.

When, in 1880, Rev. Princell accepted the presidency of Ansgarius College at Knoxville, Ill., Mrs. Princell resumed her former vocation and taught both English and Swedish branches. Four years later Rev. Princell accepted the position of editor of *Chicago-Bladet*, owned and published by John Martenson of Chicago, and his wife then became a regular contributor to that paper. Among her contributions were a "History of the Martyrs," which was published serially in weekly installments for more than fourteen years, also notes on the Sunday school lessons, which are still continued.

Mrs. Princell is a member of the Women's Christian Temperance Union since 1890, having received her impetus to that work during her residence in Evanston, where she formed the personal acquaintance of Miss Frances Willard. For many years Mrs. Princell was actively engaged as lecturer and organizer for the union among her countrymen in the Northwestern states.

After the removal of Mr. and Mrs. Princell from Minnesota, where they resided for nine years

or up to eight years ago, she resigned her position as lecturer and organizer, but continues as assistant national superintendent of work among the Scandinavians.

For the past two years Mrs. Princell has been a contributor to *Kvinnan och Hemmet*, a woman's home magazine, published in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. For a number of years past she has edited and published a Christmas annual in book form, entitled *Skogsblommor*, which is now circulated in about 3,000 copies per year.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs Princell took place Sept. 18, 1876. Of five sons born to them, four are living. The eldest, Gustave Adolph, born 1877, died in 1900 from a disease contracted during military service in the Philippines, where he was a corporal of the 13th Minnesota Volunteers. The children now living are Joseph Carl, born 1880, married to Ellen Fredeen of Minneapolis; John Magnus, born 1882, married to Ethel Currie of Merriam Park, Minn.; Paul Peter, born 1885, and Bennie Herman, born 1887.

CLARENCE S. ONGMAN

was born May 31, 1873, in St. Paul, Minn., where he obtained a public school education. Later he moved to Philadelphia, where he continued his studies at Temple College. Mr. Ongman went to Sweden in 1890, where he studied under a private tutor and afterwards took a course at the Technical School of Örebro. He returned to America in 1893 and during the World's Fair was a correspondent for a number of leading Swedish newspapers. Upon the advice of Mr. John L. Stod-



CLARENCE SHELDON ONGMAN

dard and Col. Russell H. Conwell he began to prepare for the lecture platform in 1896 and has since become a lecturer of some prominence.

In 1897 Mr. Ongman went to Cuba under the auspices of the Ladies' Cuban Aid Society of Philadelphia, his purpose being to study the political as well as the social conditions of the island. Upon his return to America Mr. Ongman gave a series of interesting lectures anent his impressions of Cuba, which were very well received. He illustrated his lectures with stereopticon views.

The titles of some of his lectures follow: "Sweden, the Land of the Midnight Sun," "Washington, our National Capital," "The Siege of

Pekin," and "The Lutherans in America."

Of late Mr. Ongman has abandoned the lecture platform and is at work in the engineering department of the city of Chicago.

WILLIAM WESTERLUND

was born in Orion, Ill., Nov. 14, 1863. His father, Peter Westerlund, came to Henry county as a boy of thirteen, in 1850. William attended the Orion high school and later the Davenport Business College, Davenport, Iowa. After returning to Orion he became city clerk and a justice of the peace. In 1882 he founded the Bank of Orion and was its cashier for ten years, or until it was merged with the State Bank of Orion.



WILLIAM WESTERLUND

In 1896 Mr. Westerlund moved to Chicago to take advantage of the greater business opportunities offered in the metropolis of the West. For several years he was identified with colonization work in Texas and Alabama. In 1904 he began handling lands in the Pacific Northwest and in Nebraska, and was special land and immigration agent for the Northwest for the Union Pacific and Southern Pacific Railroads. Shortly after he, with his brother, John A. Westerlund, organized the Western Oregon Orchard Company, a co-operative fruit-raising association, which is developing hundreds of acres of orchard land near Medford, Ore., and he is now treasurer of the company.

Mr. Westerlund is married to Miss Minnie Samuelson, daughter of Carl Magnus Samuelson, who settled in Henry county, Ill., in the '50s. Mrs. Westerlund, like her sister, Mrs. Hannah Butler, is a gifted singer, who for a number of years has been a soloist in various churches. The date of their marriage was May 28, 1891. Their children are Marjorie, Lillian and Florence.

The family attends the Augustana Swedish Lutheran Church in Hyde Park, where Mr. Westerlund is a trustee.

PEHR W. NILSSON

was born Jan. 23, 1853, in Esphult, Skåne, Sweden. He came with his parents to America, landing June 8, 1866. After taking a course of studies at the law school of Lake Forest University, he began the practice of law. Mr. Nilsson was deputy Circuit Court clerk for four years and was assistant city prosecuting attorney of Chi-

cago for five years, having been appointed during Mayor Harrison's administration.



PEHR W. NILSSON

Mr. Nilsson has never belonged to the Republican party, but claims credit for prompting the recognition of his fellow countrymen by that party. In the early eighties Mr. Nilsson, with a handful of Swedish Democrats, made a stir which caused the Republican press to inquire whether the Swedes were deserting the Republican party and turning Democrats.

Mr. Nilsson has been secretary and president of the Swedish Old Settlers' Association of Chicago. He belongs to the Protected Home Circle and the Foresters.

FREDERICK LUNDIN

was born May 18, 1868, in Vestra Tollstad parish, Östergötland, Sweden. He came with his parents to Chicago in 1878, and in this country enjoyed a general education in the public schools.

Mr. Lundin's successful career in business as a manufacturer, and in politics as state senator, was preceded in his early years by the hardships and struggles common to most immigrants who come to this land of promise empty of hand and pocket. Beginning literally at the bottom, he was at first a newsboy and bootblack, then was employed in a clothing house in Chicago. Here he was soon advanced to be salesman.

He and his brother, in 1889, began the manufacture of a beverage much in favor and ex-



FREDERICK LUNDIN

tensively used in Sweden. Success crowned their efforts and soon the business reached such proportions that it was found necessary to invest more capital, and accordingly the firm of Lundin and Co. was incorporated in

January, 1894. With a working capital of $100,000 it was possible to do business on a large scale. The Juniperade put out by the firm has been extensively advertised and is at present sold to almost every part of the civilized world. Lundin and Company's office and laboratory are at 2443–2447 W. Kinzie st., where, besides Juniperade, several other preparations and family remedies are compounded.

In 1894, Mr. Lundin was chosen state senator of Illinois with a large majority over his Democratic opponent. He has always been a stanch adherent of the Republican party.

OSCAR E. WESTERBERG

was born July 13, 1875, in Rosenborg, Vermland, where his



OSCAR E. WESTERBERG

father, Carl P. Westerberg, is a farmer. He attended public school in Sweden and came to America in 1892. On coming to Chicago, Mr. Oscar Westerberg successfully engaged in the coal business. At present he and his partner, F. Nelson, deal in coal and do furniture moving. They transact business under the firm name of Nelson and Westerberg, at 3569 N. Clark st.

Mr. Westerberg belongs to the Swedish Methodist Church and is a member of the Epworth League.

FRED H. CARLSON

was born May 9, 1867, in the Swedish city of Jönköping. His



FRED H. CARLSON

father, Johan Carlson, now deceased, was a glove manufacturer, from whom the son learned the trade. He later emigrated to America, in June, 1883, landing at Boston, from whence he came on to Chicago directly. After working in several factories he engaged in the glove manufactur-

ing business with C. Skoglof. The firm makes fine kid gloves for the trade and is said to own the largest ladies' and gents' kid glove factory between New York and San Francisco, employing over fifty workmen. The business office is at 271 E. Madison st.

Mr. Carlson resides at 1083 Winona st., Argyle, with his family, consisting of wife and three children, Julia Carolina Helena, born March 11, 1894, Hilding Fred, born June 14, 1900, and Theodor Wilhelm, born May 10, 1905. Mrs. Carlson was Caroline Olsen, born Nov. 23, 1870, daughter of Johan Olsen. The marriage took place May 6, 1893. Mr. and Mrs. Carlson are Lutherans.

CARL OSCAR NELSON

was born in Chicago Sept. 2, 1886. His father is Police Officer Olof Nelson of the Attrill street station and his mother is Mary, née Olson.

Carl learned to play a toy violin given him when he was six years old. Before he was thirteen he had made two violins with his own hands, using a pocket knife for a tool. His first music teacher was S. A. Hunt, who added him to his Juvenile Orchestra. A year later he became the leader of the orchestra, which is still under his directorship. At that time he became a pupil of the late Signor Pasquale Capone, at the Chicago Conservatory of Music, where he has been engaged as instructor after his graduation. Mr. Nelson also has



CARL OSCAR NELSON

conducted a violin school on the west side.

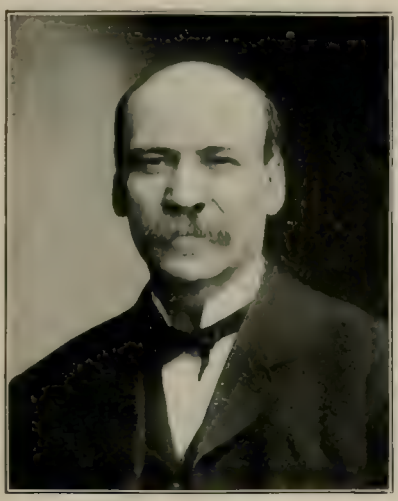
Mr. Nelson began his career as a concert performer when a mere boy, attracting considerable attention on account of his precocity, evincing a musical talent above the ordinary for his years. He has been often heard at concerts and public entertainments in Chicago and elsewhere in the West.

Mr. Nelson has also tried his talent at composing, two of his musical compositions being entitled, "The Beautiful Rose," and "Heaven's Golden Crown."

FRANK A. BERGMAN

was born in Arvika, Vermland, Sweden, Oct. 10, 1845. His father, who was a master shoemaker in the little city above named, moved

to America in 1852, and three years later sent for his family. They went first to Detroit, then



FRANK A. BERGMAN

to Chicago, and finally located in Red Wing, Minn., then a frontier village. At the outbreak of the Civil War, the elder Bergman enlisted and went to fight for the Union cause. In the meantime new calls for volunteers were issued, and Frank Bergman, then only sixteen years old, enlisted in a company formed at Fort Snelling. This company did not then get an opportunity to fight the rebels, however, but was employed in a campaign against the Indians, who had just made an uprising in the Northwest, and the actual hardships and privations incident to military life were perhaps no less here. He continued doing military service until November, 1865, when his father, who in the meantime had returned home from the war, and disapproved of his son's enlistment, secured his discharge on the ground that he was a minor. Later the young soldier organized a company of state troops, of which he was chosen a lieutenant.

In 1865 Mr. Bergman came to Chicago and began to work as a tinner, and four years later started a business of his own in that line, under the firm name of F. A. Bergman & Co. In 1876 he entered into partnership with E. T. Mason. The business was considerably enlarged, and the name of the firm changed to E. T. Mason & Co. They continued a steadily growing business, until 1900, when the tin can department was sold to the American Can Company, otherwise known as the "Tin Can Trust."

In 1869 Mr. Bergman was married to Miss Elizabeth F. Mason, sister of his business partner. They have had ten children, of whom three sons and two daughters are still living. The three sons are in business with their father at 193 W. 21st st. in the manufacture of ice cream freezers, self-heating sad irons and sheet metal specialties. One of the daughters, Marie Louise Bergman, who has a beautiful soprano voice, has studied in London with prominent English teachers for two years and later in Paris under Sbrilja and other noted instructors.

Mr. Bergman, formerly a Lutheran, is now a member of the Ethical Culture Society of Chicago, of which organization he has served as a trustee. He has also

been treasurer of Home Lodge, No. 416, I. O. O. F., and held other responsible positions in the order.

AMANDUS N. ANDERSON
AND
BENGT S. ANDERSON

Mr. Amandus N. Anderson was born in Brusarp, Nöttja parish, Kronoberg län, Sweden. He conducts a coal and expressing business at 1421–1425 Belmont ave., together with his brother, Bengt S. Anderson. Mr. Anderson is married to Mamie E. Newman. They have two daughters, Hazel Lillian and Bernice Ellen.

Mr. Bengt Salomon Anderson, also born in Brusarp, emigrated to the United States in 1888, two years later than his brother, and located in Chicago, later forming the firm of Anderson Brothers. He is married to Miss Hannah C. E. Anderson.

ANDREW GUSTAF BERG

was born in Östergötland, Sweden, Feb. 19, 1859, and came to this country in June, 1879. He located at Perth Amboy, N. J., then at Worcester, Mass., and finally came to Chicago. Like most newly arrived foreigners, he had little or no money and at first had to work very hard for low wages as helper in a rolling mill. Thereafter he had a flour and feed store for seven years, and later started a grocery store and meat market at 718 Winnemac ave. which is still being successfully operated by him.

Mr. Berg is a member of



ANDREW GUSTAF BERG

the Swedish Methodist Episcopal Church and a trustee of his congregation. He has also served as steward of the church, as Sunday school superintendent and class leader, and has held the offices of secretary, third vice-president, and president of the Epworth League. He was chosen delegate to the International Conference of the Epworth League at Chattanooga, Tenn., in 1897.

EPHRAIM J. SWANSON

was born July 4, 1874, in Stockholm. His father, Pehr Swanson, a shoedealer, removed to Upsala, where the boy attended school and then took a five years' course in the high school. He later studied the art of decorating under Edward Bergh in Stockholm. In 1891 he came to Chicago to-

gether with the family. Here he worked for John A. Thorstenson, interior decorator, for nine years,



EPHRAIM JOHANNES SWANSON

and thoroughly learned the painting trade as practiced in America. In 1900 the E. J. Swanson Co. was formed, with Mr. Swanson as president. He has a well equipped paint store and shop at 1883 N. Clark st. Mr. Swanson has had many contracts for work in various public schools and churches.

Mr. Swanson was married Dec. 17, 1898, to Miss Helga Göranson, daughter of Carl Göranson of Motala, Sweden. A son, Harry, was born in 1900.

CARL GUSTAF WALLIN

was born in Askeryd parish, Småland, Sweden, Feb. 17, 1863. He came to Moline, Ill., in November, 1881. Realizing that a business education would prove invaluable to him, he took a course at the International Business College of Davenport, Iowa, in 1885. Subsequently he worked in various capacities for John Deere and Co., of Moline. Mr. Wallin went to Chicago in 1893, and engaged in the real estate business. He was one of the founders of the Swedish Home Building Association of Chicago and since 1897 has been its secretary. He still continues in the real estate business with office at 101 Washington st.

Mr. Wallin is a member of the Zion Swedish Lutheran church



CARL GUSTAF WALLIN

and is one of its trustees. He is an independent Republican in politics.

GUSTAF AARON YOUNG,

president of the Swedish Ev. Free Mission of America, was born in the province of Vestergötland, Sweden, May 27, 1865. He spent his early days working on his father's farm, until 1886, when

he emigrated. After a short stay in Connecticut he left for the western States. In August of



GUSTAF AARON YOUNG

that year he preached his first sermon, and since then he has proclaimed the Gospel in many of the states of the Union, having had charge of churches and missions in Kiron, Iowa; Salt Lake City, Utah; East Chain Lakes, Minn.; Kansas City, Missouri, and Boone, Iowa. For six years Rev. Young was pastor of the Oak St. Swedish Mission Church, Chicago. In February, 1907, he became pastor of the Englewood Swedish Free Church.

Mr. Young has had no college education, but is a gifted and powerful public speaker, is naturally studious, a lover of books and an untiring worker.

Besides the duties of his own church, Mr. Young takes an active part in other branches of the mission work, both at home and abroad. He has for several years served as chairman of the Swedish Ev. Free Mission of America and is a member of the Board of Directors of the Scandinavian Alliance Mission, the Canton Mission, the Swedish Bible Institute of Chicago, and has held other offices of a similar nature. Rev. Young is the author of "Hjälpreda för Bibelskolan," a Biblical catechism.

In 1889 he was married to Miss Ida C. Isaacson, an Iowa school-teacher, who has been of immense help to him in his church work. They have seven children, viz., Eldon, Edna, Mildred, Blanche, Russell, Wilbur and Rutherford.

ANDREW G. WILLIN

was born in Kil parish, Vermland, Sweden, Jan. 1, 1867. Having



ANDREW G. WILLIN

been educated in the Swedish common school, he came to Chi-

cago in 1887, from his native place. Since 1892 he has been in business for himself as merchant tailor. His shop is at 1250 East Ravenswood Park, and he resides in Ravenswood. Mr. Willin is a member of the Apostolic Church on LaSalle ave.

GUSTAV V. VALENTINE

was born Nov. 22, 1863, in Askeryd, Småland, Sweden. He



GUSTAV V. VALENTINE

emigrated to this country in 1870 with his parents, who settled in Moline, Ill. After working a few years in the John Deere plow works, he went in 1886 to Minneapolis and associated himself with his brother, Carl Vallentin, as a book and music dealer. In 1891 he removed to Chicago and was engaged in the real estate business for several years. He then purchased from C. A. Devereaux the patent for a ladies' dress cutting system and after having obtained experience, invented an original system which was patented in 1902. The system which is called Valentine's New Self-Calculating Ladies' Tailoring and Dress Cutting System, is gaining favor with professional and amateur dressmakers.

Mr. Valentine conducts two schools of cutting, designing and ladies' tailoring, one at 857 N. Clark st. and another at 86 State st. A number of schools in various parts of the country are using the Valentine system.

In 1886 and again in 1893, Mr. Valentine visited the mother country and other parts of Europe.

He is one of the men who organized the Svea Building and Loan Association, and has served as a director and appraiser of the association.

J. ERNEST REHNSTROM,

doctor of dental surgery, was born Feb. 15, 1874, in New Sweden, Iowa, where his father, the Rev. John E. Rehnstrom, was pastor of the local Swedish Lutheran Church. Dr. Rehnstrom's early boyhood was spent at Red Oak, Iowa. In 1885 he removed with his parents to Alta, Iowa, where he attended high school. In 1888–89 he studied at Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, Minn. In the meantime his home was established at Sioux City, Iowa. Dr. Rehnstrom graduated from the commercial department at Augustana

College in 1893. After a few years spent at Sioux City, he took a course at the Northwestern



JOSEPH ERNEST REHNSTROM

Dental School and received his degree in 1900. Since then he has practiced his profession with office at 445 N. Clark st. Dr. Rehnstrom is on the staff of Augustana Hospital as chief of the department of Dental Surgery.

He is a member of the Illinois State Dental Society, the Chicago Odontographic Society, and the Scandinavian - American Dental Society.

He belongs to the Immanuel Swedish Lutheran Church.

Dr. Rehnstrom was married on June 26, 1907, to Julia Augusta Eckholm.

JOHN A. PETERSON

was born Feb. 18, 1848, in Gärahof, Byarum parish, Sweden. He obtained a common school education in his native country. In 1870 he emigrated to the United States, arriving May 30. For a period of ten years he was occupied in farming, near Galva, Ill., and Red Wing, Minn. Mr. Peterson thereupon became a salesman in the wholesale house of Marshall Field & Co., Chicago. This position was retained from 1880 until 1895. He then engaged in the business of selling Chicago real estate and farm lands in Minnesota, Dakota, Wisconsin and in the Southern states. His office is at 163 Randolph st.

Being active in politics, Mr. Peterson has been a delegate to state and county conventions. He resides at 1641 W. Ravenswood Pk., Chicago.

Mr. Peterson affiliates with the Methodists and has served as



JOHN A. PETERSON

trustee and secretary of that board in his local church.

KARL F. OHLSON,

for several years pastor of the Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Mission Church on the north side, was born May 3, 1858, in Misterhult parish, Småland, Sweden.

He was three years old when his father met his death by acci-



KARL F. OHLSON

dent, leaving the wife and mother in destitution, with seven children to care for, ranging in age from 18 years to six months. The subject of the present sketch began his schooling at five. After a brief attendance in public school he enjoyed free instruction for several years as a companion to a little girl, for whom a private tutoress was engaged. With the promise of support from a number of charitably disposed persons, the boy was later sent to a state institution in Linköping.

After his conversion at the age of eighteen, Ohlson had an earnest desire to become a missionary to the heathen in Africa, and on the advice of a pastor entered the mission school conducted by the Mission Covenant of Sweden. At the completion of his course, his health was so broken down, that his plan to enter the foreign mission field had to be abandoned. Those who had agreed to provide his support while a student seem to have relied upon one another, and as a result the poor young man was left without sufficient food and clothing for months at a time.

Leaving the institution he began preaching in the little city of Sala, then took up similar work in Hedemora, where he also obtained a position as instructor in a girls' seminary. While here Ohlson obtained from the rector of Hedemora permission to preach in every schoolhouse in the parish. Finally tiring of the strife stirred up over the subjects of baptism, communion and atonement, in which Ohlson took the Waldenströmian view, he gladly accepted a call to assume charge of the Swedish Congregational Church in Worcester, Mass. He came over in October, 1888, and labored in various Eastern fields, viz., Worcester, Campello and Brooklyn, up to May, 1900. Then he came to Chicago in response to a call from the North Side Mission Church. This, the mother church of the Mission Friends in America, he served until October, 1903, when he returned East to become pastor of the Bethesda Church in New York, the oldest Mission church in that part of the United States.

Rev. Ohlson having alternated between Congregational and Covenant churches, it is proper to state that he is a liberalist in denominational matters, a non-partisan as regards the various groups of Mission Friends, and stands for the non-denominational form of evangelism.

ERNST HOLMGREN

was born May 29, 1872, in Kropp parish, Skåne, Sweden, where he



ERNST HOLMGREN

was reared. After having finished his schooling in the university town of Lund, he learned his trade, that of a bookbinder. He emigrated to America at the age of nineteen and settled in Chicago. In October, 1898, he formed a copartnership with Charles Engdahl in a bookbindery, located at 305 Orleans st. Two years later they moved their bindery to 254–256 Orleans st. By 1907 the expansion of their business forced them to find more commodious quarters, and they moved to their present location at 14–28 Michigan st. Simultaneously the business was incorporated as the Holmgren, Engdahl & Johnson Co., with Mr. Holmgren as president.

The firm executes edition binding, and does stamping and embossing for the trade.

Feb. 22, 1896, Mr. Holmgren was married to Charlotta Swanson. They reside at 5933 Iowa st., Austin, and are members of the local Swedish Ev. Mission Church.

CARL K. WESTMAN

was born Sept. 9, 1868, in Skaraborgs län, Sweden. In his native land he passed through six classes at the elementary school in Skara and spent two years at the Carlsborg military academy. He left for America in 1890 and took up his residence in Chicago. Here his studies were continued at the Hahneman and Bennett medical colleges, graduating from the latter with the degree of M. D. in 1898. In 1903, after two years more of study in Sweden, Dr. Westman passed examination in the Royal Gymnastic Central Institute in Stockholm, receiving his diploma as director of medical gymnastics.

Returning to Chicago, Dr. Westman engaged in the practice of medical gymnastics and massage. In 1905 he opened a medical gymnasium and free clinic at the Plaza Hotel, where students are given instruction in massage

and medical gymnastics. The year previous Dr. Westman became instructor in his branches at the



CARL K. WESTMAN

medical school of the University of Illinois, a position he still holds. He is a member of the editorial staff of the *Journal of Physical Therapy*, and belongs to the Chicago Medical Society, the Illinois Medical Society and the American Medical Association.

LEONARD PETERSON

was born in Sweden, Jan. 4, 1861. He was educated in the public schools of his home district and in 1880 came over to the United States. Mr. Peterson is president and treasurer of the firm of Leonard Peterson and Co., 51–55 Institute place. This firm started business in 1891 making laboratory wood work, such as holders, clamps, stands, etc. The goods are used in chemical and physical laboratories of schools and colleges, and in physicians' offices throughout the United States. It is the only manufactory of its kind in the West.

Mr. Peterson belongs to the Ethical Society, the Svea Society and the Odd Fellows.



LEONARD PETERSON

GEORGE E. Q. JOHNSON,

attorney at law, was born July 11, 1874, at Harcourt, Webster county, Iowa. His father was a farmer and was one of the pioneers of the state. The subject of this sketch lived on the farm until he was nineteen years of age, in the meantime attending the public school. In 1894 he entered a normal school at Fort Dodge, Iowa, and graduated therefrom in 1897. During his stay there he won the gold and silver medals successively in oratorical contests. In 1897 he came to Chicago and entered the Chicago College of Law, graduating

in 1900 and being admitted to the bar the same year. During his course at college he was



GEORGE E. Q. JOHNSON

president of the Junior Class. Mr. Johnson has a growing practice; his office is at 120 Randolph st. Since February, 1905, he has been associated with another young attorney in the law firm of Johnson and Molthrop. A Republican in politics, he has taken active part in the 1900 and subsequent campaigns. Mr. Johnson was league orator for the Swedish-American Republican League of Illinois at the convention held in Bloomington, Illinois, in March, 1902.

Having been elected first vice-president in 1906 of the Swedish National Association, he became acting president of the association when Mr. F. A. Lindstrand resigned the presidency shortly afterward. In 1907 he was elected president. He also holds the presidency in the board of directors of the Washington Park Hospital and is a regent of the Monitor Council of the Royal Arcanum.

Sept. 8, 1906, Mr. Johnson was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth M. Swanström, a graduate of the Columbia College of Expression in Chicago. Their home is at 11121 Michigan ave.

OLENIUS OLSON

was born Nov. 21, 1859, in Östvallskog, Vermland, Sweden, where he obtained his early schooling. At the age of twenty-one he emigrated to America, making his home in Chicago. Here he fitted himself for practical life by at-



OLENIUS OLSON

tending night school and later the Metropolitan Business College. For the last ten years he has been the proprietor of a flourishing tailoring establishment at 28 Jackson Boulevard. Mr. Olson has spent much time in travel—

in this country as well as in Europe. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity.

FRIDOLF RISBERG,

one of the foremost pastors and educators in the group of Mission



FRIDOLF RISBERG

churches in this country, is the son of Jonas Risberg, who was a practicing physician at Nysätra, in Vesterbotten, Sweden, until his death in 1886, and his wife, Catarina Wilhelmina, née Hamrén. The son was born at Nysätra, Nov. 4, 1848. His education was obtained at the elementary school and gymnasium in Luleå from 1858 to 1868 and at the Upsala University from 1868 to 1874. The last named year he passed the examination for the holy ministry and was subsequently ordained by Archbishop Sundberg as minister of the Lutheran state church. After having served as pastor for eight years, he resigned his office and withdrew from the state church to join the free church known as the Mission Covenant of Sweden. For the next three years Mr. Risberg labored in behalf of that movement in Jemtland and Ångermanland, the same provinces where he had been stationed as a minister of the established church.

At the time of the organization of the Mission Covenant of America, the need of an institute for the training of pastors and missionaries made itself felt, and when the Chicago Theological Seminary offered to accomodate the Covenant by maintaining a Swedish department for which it might select its own teacher, Risberg was called and accepted that post. He came over from Sweden in 1885 and assumed his new duties when the school year opened in the fall. From that time to this Prof. Risberg has served his church in the important capacity of educator of its ministers, a large number of whom have during the past twenty-one years enjoyed the benefit of his instruction.

Prof. Risberg has been active in pastoral and missionary work in the intervals between the school years. As a traveling missionary he has covered a great deal of ground, both in the old world and the new. While a pastor in Northern Sweden he made numerous missionary journeys to Norway and Finland and since his coming to this country

he has made one similar trip to Canada and traveled in the States from ocean to ocean, visiting twenty-eight states to preach the Gospel.

His missionary zeal also extends to heathen lands. For the past fifteen years he has been a member of the board of the Scandinavian Alliance Mission of Chicago, which at present maintains one hundred missionaries in China, Japan, India, Africa and South America. During the same period he has acted as treasurer of the Mission funds, aggregating $30,000 per year.

Prof. Risberg is a facile writer on religious topics, and his pen, like his other faculties, has been dedicated to the cause of his church. He is the author of a devotional book entitled, "Dagligt Manna," published in 1893, and has written a large number of religious articles for the church press, a collection of which were published in Chicago, in 1906, under the common title of "Bibel-Bilder." He was also associate editor of "Sionsharpan," published in 1890, a hymnal widely used in the Mission churches throughout the country.

Prof. Risberg is affiliated with the Swedish Congregational Church and is president of the local Bethlehem congregation, of which he is the founder.

For many years he has been financially and otherwise interested in *Missions-Vännen*, the newspaper organ of the Covenant, and served as a member of its board of control.

OLOF OLSON
AND
LARS OLSON,

of the firm of Olson Brothers, carpentry contractors, have in a short time established a flourishing business, despite the intense competition prevailing here.



OLOF OLSON

Olof Olson, the elder brother, was born in the village of Säter, Sunne parish, Vermland, Sweden, May 29, 1867, and was reared in the place of his birth, attending high school at Sunne. In 1886 he emigrated, coming directly to Chicago.

He is married to Ida Anderson from Östergötland and they have one son.

Mr. Olson is a Mason of the Kenwood Lodge No. 800, and belongs also to the Iduna Society,

the National Union and the Carpenters' and Builders' Association.

Lars Olson, the younger brother, was born in the same place Jan.



LARS OLSON

6, 1870, and attended the same school. He came to America and to Chicago in 1891. Like his brother he went to work as a carpenter, and in 1899, after both brothers had mastered the trade, they established themselves as contractors on their own account. After a couple of successful deals they were enabled to do business on a large scale. In the last few years they have put up a number of buildings, including the Masonic Building at Grand Crossing, the Swedish Episcopal Church at Garfield boul. and Morgan st., and dozens of apartment building in size from six to twenty-four apartments. They have at times had as many as 12 to 15 buildings in course of construction at one and the same time. The Olson brothers are young men of exceptional capabilities and rank well to the front among the numerous builders' firms of the city.

Their office is at 6501 S. Peoria street.

CLAES A. YOUNGQUIST

was born at Ljungarum, Småland, Jan. 11, 1859. In Sweden he obtained his education in the common school and the public high school in Jönköping. He left for America and landed in June, 1875, with Chicago as his destination. A course of studies was taken in a business school, after which he was engaged in commercial life.

For some years Mr. Youngquist was connected with the dry goods



CLAES AUGUST YOUNGQUIST

firm of John M. Lundell and Co. He is now conducting a life and fire insurance agency, and at

present serves as treasurer of the Swedish Evangelical Mission Covenant of America. Mr. Youngquist is treasurer and Sunday school superintendent of the Swedish Mission Church at North Park, which is in the outskirts of Chicago.

JOHAN A. H. ROSENDAHL,

minister of the Swedish Baptist Church, was born April 3, 1871,



JOHAN AUGUST HJALMAR ROSENDAHL

in Bredvik parish, Vestergötland, Sweden. He graduated from the public school at the age of twelve. For six years subsequently he worked as florist and gardener in Skönnarbo, Östergötland, and at Rosta, Nerike. He secured employment in the Skyllbergs Bruk rolling mill in Nerike and worked there until 1891. Enlisting in the Swedish army, he served two years in the Royal Göta Artillery regiment and was mustered out as first corporal. After coming to this country in December, 1893, he secured work in a shoe factory in Nashua, N. H. In 1895 he moved to Concord, N. H., where he obtained employment with the Boston and Maine R. R. In 1897 he entered the Swedish Baptist Theological Seminary and graduated from this institution May 15, 1901. He was ordained Aug. 10 following, and was pastor of the Third Swedish Baptist Church of Chicago until 1903. He then was appointed missionary for Kansas, with headquarters at Clay Centre, Kansas.

The Rev. Mr. Rosendahl was married to Christina Swedmark on April 19, 1902.

EDWIN SANDBLOM

was born at Tidaholm, in the province of Vestergötland, Sweden, Nov. 10, 1854. He was an ironworker by trade in the old country. Coming to Chicago in 1887, he was variously employed up to 1894, when he engaged in the manufacture of printers' supplies, in which line he has been amply successful, acquiring an excellent trade and a most creditable reputation because of the superiority of his work. E. Sandblom and Co. manufacture at 149 S. Jefferson st. wrought iron and steel chases of all styles and sizes for printers' use. The goods are sold to dealers in printers' supplies, and the trade of the house reaches all parts of the United States and Canada.

In 1884 Mr. Sandblom was married to Miss Josephine Carlson, with whom he has had two sons and three daughters.

EMIL A. W. JOHNSON

was born Oct. 30, 1863, in Chicago. His mother, Emma C.



EMIL A. W. JOHNSON

Johnson, emigrated from Sweden in 1852. His father, John A. Johnson, who came to this country in 1854, was a Union soldier in the Civil War.

Emil received his education at the Franklin School in Chicago and Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, Minn. For 19 years he was employed as an accountant by Marshall Field & Co. After having taken a full course at Chicago College of Law he was, in 1899, appointed a Justice of the Peace for the town of Lake View by Gov. Tanner. Mr. Johnson was reappointed by Governors Yates and Deneen and retained his office until it was displaced by the Municipal Court. At present he is a deputy clerk of this same Municipal Court.

In 1898 he served as president of the Swedish-American Republican Club of the 26th ward. He belongs to the following fraternal orders: A. F. and A. M., R. A. M., Knights of Pythias, Royal League and Columbian Knights.

June 14, 1888, Mr. Johnson was married to Bena S. Christopher. They have two sons and a daughter. The family lives at 229 Potwyn place, Ravenswood.

CARL A. CARLSON

was born in Östra Torp parish, Skåne, Sweden, Jan. 21, 1877. After attending the public school, he worked at home with his father, Christoffer Carlson, who was a farmer and merchant.



CARL A. CARLSON

In May 1892, Mr. Carlson came to the United States. We soon

find him in Chicago, working at the tailor's trade. In 1894, after but two years experience, Mr. Carlson started in business as manufacturing tailor. His business has acquired such dimensions that he now employs more than fifty workers. Mr. Carlson lives at 740 Bryn Mawr ave. and is a member of the Swedish Lutheran Church.

RICHARD TENNERSTEDT

was born Feb. 7, 1861, in Ingatorp, Sweden. He emigrated to



RICHARD TENNERSTEDT

America in 1868, attended the public schools for several years and then engaged in business as manufacturing tailor. He is president of the Tennerstedt Manufacturing Co., vest manufacturers at 804–806 N. Winchester ave.

Mr. Tennerstedt is a member of the Immanuel Swedish Lutheran Church and of the Svithiod Singing Club and resides at 2337 N. Paulina st.

He is not an active politician and takes little interest in partisan struggles, but is regarded a wide-awake citizen.

LOUIS OLSON

was born in Skåne, Sweden, Nov. 1, 1876. His parents are Knut



LOUIS OLSON

M. Olson and his wife, Karna Nelson, who came to this country in 1888. The son Louis attended the Harrison school in Chicago, where the family located, afterwards going to work for various firms. For one year he worked as machinist for the McCormick Harvester Co., then for nine years as salesman.

In 1900 he started in the livery and undertaking business with his father, as junior partner of the firm known as K. M. Olson & Son. As funeral directors and embalmers they are maintaining

two places of business, at 3025 Wentworth ave. and at 1128 S. Oakley ave. Mr. Olson, Jr., is in charge of the Wentworth ave. office.

Mr. Olson is a member of the Salem Swedish Lutheran Church. He is a very active club and fraternity man, holding membership in a large number of organizations, including the following: Lakeside Lodge, A. F. and A. M.; Linné Lodge, I. O. O. F.; Rising Sun Lodge, K. of P.; Frithiof Lodge, I. O. S.; Empire Tent, Maccabees; Columbia Chapter, O. E. S.; Angantyr Lodge, I. O. V.; Wentworth Camp, M. W. A.; Armour Council, N. U.; Society Balder, Society Nordstjernan, Society Iduna, Chicago Svenska Vasa-Förening, Föreningen Enighet, the Webster Improvement Club, the Webster Debating Club, the Chicago South Side Liverymen's Association and the Chicago Undertakers' Association.

Jan. 22, 1905, Mr. Olson was married to Miss Helen Johnson of Chicago.

JOHN PETERSON

was born in Åsheda parish, Småland, Sweden, Dec. 4, 1860, and is a Chicagoan since 1880.

Here he began work in the mason's trade, and during the last twenty years he has done an extensive contracting business in the city of Chicago, and has erected a number of large buildings in that city, as well as in other cities. His office is at 153 La Salle st.

Mr. Peterson was married in 1884, to Miss Christina Maria Carlson, and they reside at 2835



JOHN PETERSON

Southport ave., Rogers Park. Mrs. Peterson is a member of the Ebenezer Swedish Lutheran Church in Summerdale. Mr. Peterson belongs to the order of Svithiod, the Odd Fellows, and the Royal Arcanum.

Politically Mr. Peterson is an independent Republican.

HERMAN CARLSON

was born Dec. 7, 1862, in Rumskulla parish, Östergötland, Sweden. In 1887 he came over and located in Chicago. Two years later he started in the business of manufacturing vests for merchant tailors. His establishment at present employs about 50 men and is located at 188 Lake st.

Mr. Carlson belongs to the Salem Church, in Cuyler. He is

an active member of Independent Order of Vikings and was successively vice grand chief, treasurer and grand chief.



HERMAN CARLSON

Mr. Carlson was married in 1896 to Amanda Tennerstedt, a native Chicagoan, now deceased. He had with her a daughter, Florence Victoria. Mr. Carlson was remarried in 1903, to Miss Gerda Stein, born in Alsheda parish, Småland, Sweden. The family lives at 528 Larchmont ave.

ADOLF HULT,

minister of the Lutheran Church, was born Dec. 24, 1869, at Moline, Ill. His father was Olof Hult, a blacksmith, one of the early members of the Swedish colony at that place. The son was graduated from Augustana College with the class of '92 and then entered Augustana Theological Seminary. Upon the completion of his course the degree of Bachelor of Divinity was conferred upon him and he was ordained June 11, 1899, at the synodical meeting at St. Paul, Minn. Rev. Hult immediately assumed the pastorate of the Messiah English Lutheran Church in Lake View, which he had for a year served while a student. During his incumbency the membership of the church increased from 226 to over 450, making it the third largest English Lutheran congregation in Chicago. Mr. Hult pursued postgraduate studies in Hebrew and Assyriology at the University of Chicago and was for one year instructor in Hebrew at the Chicago Lutheran Theological Seminary.



ADOLF HULT

He is a profound student of practical theology and of the Old Testament and has contributed numerous articles to the Lutheran press. Rev. Hult was in 1905 chief editor of *Vaktaren*, a relig-

ious paper, published in Chicago in 1904 and 1905, and is now associate editor of *The Young Lutheran's Companion*, a semi-monthly, published at Rock Island.

In May, 1907, Rev. Hult left the pastorate of Messiah Church, pursuant to a call from the Immanuel Swedish Lutheran Church of Omaha, Nebraska.

June 28, 1899, he was married to Miss Edna Blomgren, daughter of Oscar N. and Emma Blomgren, early Swedish settlers in Chicago. In the union there are three children, Miriam Edna, born April 4, 1900, Adolf Nathanael, born Jan. 16, 1904, and Evangeline Christina, born April 6, 1907.

AXEL RUDOLPH ENGBERG, son of John J., was born in Chicago Oct. 19, 1869. After finishing school, he was in the floral business for several years. Finding that he had an exceptionally fine voice, he began the study of music. In January, 1899, he married Mrs. Annie Nellis Carter. Going to Europe the same year, he traveled extensively. He studied with some of the best masters, both in Paris and in London. Returning to America, he had the advantages of the best teachers in New York and Chicago. In 1904 he went again, for study, in Europe.



AXEL RUDOLPH ENGBERG

Returning in November, 1906, he has made Chicago his home. His professional name is Rudolph Engberg.

MATTIS C. RANSEEN, pastor of the Gethsemane Swedish Lutheran Church of Chicago for the past twenty-eight years, is a prominent figure in the Augustana Synod and in the Lutheran Church of America.



MATTIS C. RANSEEN

He was born in Ljungryda,

Jemshög, Blekinge, April 6, 1845. His parents, both of whom died in Sweden, were Carl M. Ranseen, a farmer, and his wife, Karin Jönsson. The son entered the academic school at Jemshög without any preliminary schooling, and after completing the course in two years, aided by a thorough home training, he obtained a position as teacher in the parish school. After two years of public teaching and one of private tutorship he left for the United States in 1867, coming first to Rockford, Ill., and then going to Centralia, Wis., where he was employed in a sawmill. After a few months of manual labor, he entered the Augustana Theological Seminary at Paxton in the fall of the same year. In four years he completed the course of study then afforded by the Augustana Synod at its meeting in Chisago Lake, Minn., in 1871, holding a call to become pastor of the church at Dayton, Ia. After two years of service in that field Rev. Ranseen accepted a call from the mission board of the Iowa Conference to take up work at Keokuk, Ia. Here he labored for half a year, meanwhile organizing two congregations, one at Keokuk, and another at Sugar Creek. Late in the year 1873 he became pastor at Elgin, Ill., and labored simultaneously in the mission field until 1875, when a call to Ottumwa, Ia., was accepted. Rev. Ranseen served the Swedish Lutheran congregation at that place for four years, or until 1879, when he removed to Chicago on a call from the Gethsemane Church. He assumed this charge in May of that year and for more than a quarter of a century has filled that same pulpit.

In consideration of a long and distinguished service as a churchman, the board of directors of Augustana College and Theological Seminary has conferred upon Rev. Ranseen the honorary degree of D. D.

Dr. Ranseen has filled a number of offices of trust and responsibility in the Lutheran Church. For two years he was president of the Iowa Conference, and he has been elected to the same position in the Illinois Conference repeated times. He was one of the men who organized the Augustana Hospital of Chicago in 1882 and has served on its board of directors from that time to this, with the exception of a single term of three years, and has been president of the board nearly the whole of that time. He has been elected on the board of regents of Augustana College time and again, and has often been chosen chairman of that board. For almost a decade he was vice-president of the Augustana Synod, and for a term of four years, 1898–1902, he served as president of the General Council, a larger body of Lutherans, of which the Augustana Synod is a component part.

Next to his own congregation, the Augustana Hospital probably owes the greatest debt of gratitude to Dr. Ranseen for untiring serv-

ices and personal sacrifice of time and labor in its interest.

Dr. Ranseen is without doubt one of the most widely known clergymen in the city of Chicago. Most of the public men of the community in the last twenty-five years he has counted as personal acquaintances, and his intimacy with local affairs has caused him to participate in civic movements from time to time, especially in the work carried on for a number of years by the Civic Federation.

Oct. 3, 1872, the marriage of Rev. Mr. Ranseen and Miss Anna Sophia Anderson took place at Elgin. Mrs. Ranseen was born in Sweden Oct. 30, 1851. They have reared a family of ten children, five sons and five daughters, viz.: Arnold Emanuel, born 1874; Gertrude Laurentia, '76; Anna Cora, '77; Carl Matthias, '79; Ernest Ephraim, '80; Ruth Aurora, '82; Esther Theodora, '84; Blenda Naemi, '86; Mauritz Nathanael, '87; Clarence Peter, '92. The son Arnold is married to Miss Agnes Wahl, the daughter Cora to Dr. Henry George Johnson of Lindsborg, Kans., and the daughter Ruth to Mr. August Lundquist of Chicago.

FRED ANDERSON

was born Dec. 21, 1860, in Visnums parish, Vermland, Sweden. He arrived in this country at twenty, having obtained a common school education in his native country. He now attended a night school in Chicago in preparing to enter business life. A position as shipping clerk with Belford, Clarke, and Co. was soon secured. With this firm he remained for seven years. In 1887 he engaged in insurance as solicitor for the Metropolitan Insurance Co. and advanced to the position



FRED ANDERSON

of assistant superintendent. The possibilities iu the land business next attracted him, and he built a hotel at the Svea Land Colony, located at Silverhill, Alabama, in which he was financially interested. Mr. Anderson later visited California in the interest of the Swedish land colony near Redlands. He then became interested in irrigation and went to Texas and experimented with rice culture, demonstrating that it is suitable for the farmer of limited capital, who can sink a well, pump his necessary supply of water with a steam or gasoline engine and take care of 160 acres, employing help only at harvest time. Subsequently Mr.

Anderson went to Idaho and experimented with irrigation by means of ditches, or canals. After a few years spent in colonization work, Mr. Anderson again settled down in Chicago and is now conducting a real estate, loan, fire insurance, renting and collecting business in partnership with Herman W. Hanson at 1889 N. Clark st.

NILS WILHELM ANTHONY

was born in the city of Kristianstad, Sweden, Nov. 22, 1872. Having finished his schooling in his home city he began work as an apprentice in a printing shop. He worked at the case there and in other cities in Sweden until 1889, when he emigrated, coming direct to Chicago.



NILS WILHELM ANTHONY

In this country Mr. Anthony has followed his old trade, working as a compositor in various job printing offices. For a number of years he has held the position of foreman in the well-known job office of S. Th. Almberg. Mr. Anthony stands high in the printing trade and has frequently received honorable mention in leading typographical journals for expertness as a job compositor. He is secretary of the Swedish Typographical Union No. 247, I. T. U.

He possesses a baritone voice of fine timbre and is recognized in musical circles as a concert and church soloist of ability. He is often heard at musical entertainments and was for several years soloist of the American Methodist Church of Kenosha, Wis. For many years past he has belonged to the Lyran and the Svithiod Singing clubs and is now a member of the Swedish Glee Club and the Orion Sextette.

Dec. 25, 1900, Mr. Anthony was joined in marriage to Miss Jennie Akerson of Ong, Neb. The fruit of their union is a son, Stellan Wilhelm Olcott, born Nov. 28, 1901.

JOHN SIGURD MECK

is the son of Mauritz H. Meck, a watchmaker in Stockholm. He was born Sept. 6, 1876, in that city. At the age of five he was brought to the United States by his parents, who emigrated in 1881, locating in Chicago.

Young Meck at an early age took up the study of music, possessing natural talent along that line. He was a pupil, successively, of Barbara Grau, Prof. Hyllested and the Chicago Musical College. At that institution he studied har-

mony, counterpoint and composition under Adolf Weidig and orchestration under Adolf Rosenbecker. Thus equipped, Mr. Meck for the past four years has held the position of arranger for the Chicago office of the music publishing house of J. H. Remick & Co., a firm maintaining branches also in Detroit, New York and London.



JOHN SIGURD MECK

Mr. Meck is a member of the Svithiod Singing Club and is ever ready to assist, as piano accompanist or orchestral conductor, at the musical entertainments given at frequent intervals by the club. His name is also on the roster of the Lincoln Park Club, the Swedish Glee Club and the St. Cecilia Lodge of Free Masonry, in which Mr. Meck has attained the 32d degree, as well as being a Noble of the Mystic Shrine.

A number of compositions have come from his pen, among others being: "Barcarolle in F;" "A Southern Fantasy;" "Beauty-Sleep," a Serenade; "On the Mediterranean," a waltz; "My Heart is a Kingdom" and "A Cigarette Ballad," songs, and a number of marches, waltzes, etc.

ANDREW HANSON,

contractor and builder, was born in Tyde parish, Skåne, Sweden, April 18, 1855. After learning the carpenter's trade he emigrated to America in 1878, reaching Chicago the same year. He was first employed by Bohman & Larson, organ manufacturers. The Carsley & East Manufacturing Co. then employed him for six years. Mr. Hanson started in business for himself in 1894 as a carpenter and builder, and has since made a specialty of erecting private residences in the northern suburbs.

Mr. Hanson was married in 1889 to Miss Mary Nelson. Their children are: Alice, born 1890; Mabel, 1891; Ellen, 1894; Jennings, 1896, and George, 1899.

Mr. Hanson is a member of the I. O. S.

P. WILLIAM THORELIUS,

doctor of dental surgery, was born April 15, 1866, in Södra Finnskoga parish, Vermland, Sweden, where his father, Fredrik Thorelius, was a curate. Three years later, the family removed to Grava parish, where Thorelius Sr. was rector until his death in 1904. The son attended school in Karlstad from 1876 until 1883, and went to Chicago in 1886. Entering the Chicago College of

Dental Surgery in 1889, he was graduated from that institution March 24, 1891. Dr. Thorelius



PETER WILLIAM THORELIUS

opened an office a few months later at 111 E. Chicago ave. His dental office is now at 237 North Clark st., cor. Chicago ave.

Dec. 1, 1905, he bought the old Hesselroth Pharmacy at 107 E. Chicago ave. and incorporated the business as the Hesselroth-Thorelius Drug Co., with Hilmer Hesselroth as president and Dr. Thorelius as secretary. The latter is a nephew of Hilmer Hesselroth and of the late Lawrence Hesselroth, his brother.

On Sept. 12, 1891, Dr. Thorelius was united in marriage to Ida Anderson of Elkhart, Ind. Their children with dates of birth are: Hilmer Fredrik Lawrence, Aug. 4, 1892; Carl Gustaf Paulus, Oct. 22, 1894; Alice Marie, Oct. 2, 1896; Ida Wilhelmina, Aug. 22, 1898; John William, Nov. 30, 1900; Bernice Elizabeth, June 10, 1903; Florence Helena, May 14, 1905.

Dr. Thorelius is a member of the Illinois State Dental Society, the Odontographic Dental Society and is vice-president of the Scandinavian Dental Society of Chicago. The family are members of the Immanuel Swedish Lutheran Church.

NILS HENNINGS

was born April 1, 1855, at Sköfde, Vestergötland, Sweden. For a number of years he was engaged in the lumber business in Stockholm. In 1893 he went to the World's Columbian Exposition in



NILS HENNINGS

Chicago as representative of several manufacturers in Sweden. Subsequently he was cashier for the St. Louis & Belleville R. R. Co. until 1901. Mr. Hennings then started the Swedish Business Men's Club, on Washington st. A number of Swedish gentlemen

belonged to the club and took their noonday meals there. The food was prepared in genuine Swedish fashion.

In 1905 this club disbanded, and Mr. Hennings shortly after removed to St. Paul to become manager of a Swedish club in that city.

Mr. Hennings, who was married to Miss Bertha Petersen in 1881, is the father of three sons. His wife died in 1901.

BIRGER F. LUNDBERG

was born in Kalmar, Sweden, July 7, 1872. At the age of sixteen



BIRGER F. LUNDBERG

he set out to make his own way in the world. Coming to this country, he ultimately landed in Minnesota, where he was engaged in various employments in city and country. Securing a position in A. E. Johnson & Co.'s ticket and land office in St. Paul he, by his his ability and energy, soon attracted the attention of his superiors, and his promotion was rapid. For a while he was employed in the office of the same company at Spokane, Wash., but after a short time he was recalled to St. Paul to take charge of the ticket department there. In 1894 he went to Chicago, and having held positions with the White Star Line and the Dominion Line, became the Chicago manager for A. Mortensen & Co., general agents of the Scandinavian-American Line. When in 1905 A. E. Johnson & Co. became the successors to this firm, Mr. Lundberg was recognized as an invaluable man to the office and was retained as manager.

GUSTAV THUNANDER

was born Nov. 30, 1869, in Jönköping, Sweden. After finishing



GUSTAV THUNANDER

the course offered in the public schools, he studied at the Technical school in Jönköping. Emi-

grating to the United States in 1891, he remained for some time in New Orleans. Coming from there to Chicago, he worked for different decorating firms. In 1898 he started in business, with Chas. Nyden, as interior decorator. The firm employs 30 to 40 men, and is well-known to the building trade. Their shop is at 76–84 E. 43d st.

Mr. Thunander belongs to the Royal League.

CHARLES JOHN WILSON,

professor of Latin and Natural Science at North Park College,



CHARLES JOHN WILSON

was born Dec. 4, 1870, at New Boston, Ill. His parents, John Johnson, a farmer, and Jean Johnson lived in the same place until their death in 1880.

After attending the public school in Andover, the son passed a year in the Academy at Augustana College and was graduated in 1894 from Bethany College with the degree A. B. During his last two years at this institution he acted as assistant in English. The summer term in 1896 was occupied in the study of chemistry and physiology in Stetson University, De Land, Florida. In the fall he began his present career as professor of Latin and Natural Science at North Park College. He has since pursued post-graduate studies in Latin at the University of Chicago.

Professor Wilson is a member of the Swedish Ev. Mission Church of North Park and is superintendent of the Sunday school. He is president of the Bethany Alumni Association in Chicago.

Prof. Wilson was on June 7, 1899, married to Jennie C. Modine of Chicago, born on Sept. 15, 1872. Mrs. Wilson's parents are John A. and Amanda Modine.

The Wilsons have a son, Stanley Raymond, born June 22, 1900 and a daughter, Bernice Marjorie, born June 7, 1904.

L. W. A. BJÖRKMAN

was born in Lindèsberg, Vestmanland, Sweden, March 28, 1853. He emigrated to the United States in 1879 and ten years later entered the ministry. Mr. Björkman was ordained by an ecclesiastical council in Hartford, Conn., Dec. 26, 1890.

For nine years he was pastor of the Swedish Zion Congregational Church in Hartford, Conn. Oct. 1, 1898, Rev. Björkman became pastor of the Swedish Evangelical Mission Church in Ravens-

wood, Chicago, where he remained until 1907.



L. W. A. BJÖRKMAN

He is now stationed at Burlington and West Burlington, Ia.

MAGNUS OLSON

was born Jan. 18, 1843, in Urâsa parish, Småland, Sweden. He learned the stone cutting trade, but forsook it when he emigrated to America in 1867. The winter was spent in a logging camp, and then he went to Minneapolis, where he lived for four years. It was just after the great Chicago fire of 1871 that Mr. Olson was attracted to Chicago and took part in the rebuilding operations. After a few years he established a gentlemen's furnishing store, which was continued until a partner sold it while Mr. Olson was on a European trip in 1886. On his return he engaged in the shirt-manufacturing and the laundry business on N. Clark st., later moving his establishment to 576 Wells st., where it is still conducted by his partner, Henry P. Runkel.

Magnus Olson was one of the organizers of Freja, the first large Swedish singing society in Chicago. This later became the Swedish Singing Society and in 1889 united with the Swedish Club, a social organization, and was incorporated as the Swedish Glee Club. Mr. Olson became president of the club and was a second tenor in its splendid chorus. He became the first president of the American Union of Swedish Singers in 1892 and contributed much to the success of the festival at the Columbian Exposition in 1893 as well as the Swedish tournée in 1897.



MAGNUS OLSON

It was on the terrace of the new Royal Opera House in Stockholm that a public address was accorded Magnus Olson, recognizing his noble qualities and the part

he had taken in the organization of the Swedish male choruses of America.

Mr. Olson retired from active singing in the Swedish Glee Club in 1900 and was elected an honorary member. He died Oct. 4, 1905, and was buried in Graceland.

OLOF JOHNSON,

pastor of the Second Swedish Methodist Episcopal Church of



OLOF JOHNSON

Chicago, is the son of John Nelson, a contractor, and his wife, Maria Johnson, who are both living and celebrated their golden wedding in 1905. Their son Olof was born Oct. 11, 1861, at Hällaryd, in the province of Blekinge, near the city of Karlshamn, Sweden. The son obtained his preliminary education in the school of his home parish. Having emigrated in 1861 to Chicago, he was variously employed until he entered the Swedish Methodist Theological Seminary at Evanston, graduating from that institution in 1889. Entering the ministry, he has had the following pastoral charges in succession: Englewood, two years; Des Moines, Ia.; Victoria, Ill., at the head of the pioneer Swedish church of the denomination, four years; Galesburg, five years; Geneva, four years; and lastly the Second Swedish M. E. Church of Chicago, his present charge.

The pastor is deeply interested in the temperance cause, having often spoken on the subject before different organizations and societies.

In 1888 he made a trip back to the old country, visiting his parents in the old homestead and traveling extensively throughout the country, visiting historic spots and other poinls of interest.

The Rev. Mr. Johnson has been twice married, first to Miss Selma Hultman, Feb. 3, 1892, at Des Moines, Iowa; having lost her by death in 1902, at Geneva, he was married Oct. 4, 1904, to Miss Ina Sandborg, a daughter of Edward and Mary Sandborg of Galesburg, Ill., born Jan. 15, 1867. There are two children, the issue of the first marriage, viz. Frances Linnea, born in Victoria, Ill., Feb., 16, 1893, and Lawrence Emanuel, born in Galesburg, March 26, 1896.

The present home of the pastor and his family is at 214 N. May street.

WILLIAM K. JOHNSON

was born June 5, 1861, in Sölvesborg, Blekinge, Sweden. His



WILLIAM K. JOHNSON

parents were Jöns and Pernilla Mortenson. William went to school in his native place until 1872 when he, together with his mother, brother and sister embarked intent on rejoining the father and three brothers who had emigrated in 1869 and gone to Chicago. The father, a carpenter, assumed the name Johnson, for there were few Johnsons in Chicago in those days. William attended Swedish and German parochial schools and the public schools until he was fifteen when he started in the book binding trade. After a few years Mr. Johnson had mastered the art of cover stamping so well that from 1880 to 1894 he was in charge of the stamping department at Donahue and Henneberry. For the next ten years he was foreman of the same branch at Rand McNally and Company.

In 1904 Mr. Johnson became a stamper to the trade with quarters on Custom House place. June 1, 1907, he became vice-president of the Holmgren, Engdahl and Johnson Co. The firm is located at 14–28 Michigan st. and does general bookbinding, stamping and embossing for the trade.

Mr. Johnson was married Aug. 2, 1884, to Anna Carolina, daughter of Peter and Barbara Doerr of Kensington. A daughter, Helen Gladys was born in 1899. The family is enrolled in the Lutheran Church. Mr. Johnson is a member of Press Council of the National Union.

NILS ERIC NILSON

was born in Neder-Kalix parish, Norrbotten, Sweden, Oct. 28,



NILS ERIC NILSON

1864. He emigrated to America in 1879, and worked at different

kinds of labor, such as farming, contracting and foundry work. In December, 1898, he became a fish dealer at 1254 Belmont ave. and the store was known as the Belmont Avenue Fish and Oyster Market. He now has a hotel at Kenosha, Wisconsin.

Mr. Nilson is married since 1885, his wife's maiden name being Anna Carolina Sundberg.

L. G. ABRAHAMSON,

pastor of the Salem Swedish Lutheran Church of Chicago, is



LAURENTIUS G. ABRAHAMSON

one of the eminent Swedish churchmen of the United States. In every phase of activity in the Augustana Synod he has been a factor during the past quarter century, demonstrating executive ability of a high order.

Dr. L. G. Abrahamson, was born at Medåker, not far from the city of Arboga, Sweden, Mar. 2, 1850. He was reared on a farm owned by his father, Anders G. Abrahamson. Being a man of literary tastes, he provided his household with an assortment of good books which early inspired the son with a desire for study. In the late fall of 1868, the family emigrated to the United States, locating in Jamestown, N. Y., where the elder Abrahamson passed away in 1890.

At fifteen the son commenced to earn his own living. In 1872 he entered Augustana College and Theological Seminary and attended that institution at Paxton and Rock Island until 1880, when he was ordained minister of the Augustana Synod, at once assuming charge of the congregation at Altona, Ill. Having labored there for six years, he accepted a call from the Salem Church in Chicago of which he has been pastor up to the present time.

Dr. Abrahamson early displayed exceptional power both in the pulpit and in the field of practical church work, and his energy was soon enlisted in the service of the church in a more general way. He has served the synod and the Illinois conference, generally for long periods, in many executive capacities, among others, as member of the executive committee of the conference, the mission board of the synod, the synodical council, the board of directors of Augustana College and Theological Seminary, the foreign mission board of the General Council of American Lutherans, as president and treasurer of the confer-

ence for various terms and as treasurer of the synodical mission board. He has been a member of the board of directors of the Augustana Hospital for twenty one consecutive years. The church has few more zealous friends and promoters of missionary work than he, as shown by him partly in active work in the mission field in Utah, and later for eleven years in conducting the department of missions in *Augustana*, the officia paper of the synod.

Feeling the insufficiency of the courses afforded by Augustana in the '70s, Dr. Abrahamson several years ago pursued a full course as a non-resident student, earning from his alma mater the college diploma and the degree of A. B. Much of the time not taken up by ministerial duties he has spent in his library, constantly augmenting his fund of booklore.

The honorary degree of A. M. was conferred on him by Bethany College and that of D. D. by Augustana College and Theological Seminary. By King Oscar II. of Sweden, Dr. Abrahamson has been created a Knight of the Order of the North Star, designated by the title of R. N. O. His taste for travel Dr. Abrahamson has indulged to a great extent. He has visited all parts of our own country, made three tours of Sweden and an extended tour of Europe, preferably visiting the scenes connected with the life of Luther and the story of the Reformation, and other points of historic interest.

At secular as well as religious festivals Dr. Abrahamson often appears as a speaker. As a writer he is known principally through his contributions to the church press, but articles from his pen have appeared also in *Prärieblomman*, a Swedish literary annual, and other publications. In collaboration with the late Dr. Carl Swensson he edited and published "Jubel-Album," a large illustrated volume recounting the history and progress of the Augustana Synod.

On Aug. 24, 1881, Dr. Abrahamson was married to Miss Florinda M. Morris, a daughter of Anders P. and Johanna Morris of Chandler's Valley, Pa., where she was born Aug. 6, 1863. They have a family of four daughters, Florinda Olivia, born Feb. 16, 1885; Ebba Valeria, June 15, 1889; Agnes Winnefried, Nov. 11, 1891; and Mildred Genevieve, Sept. 19, 1899. Two sons died in infancy. Mrs. Abrahamson is an estimable and accomplished lady who shares her husband's taste for travel and heartily joins him in making their home one of the most hospitable in the city. The parsonage is at 2823 Princeton avenue.

PETER MAGNUS ALFVIN,

pastor of the Swedish Methodist Episcopal Church since the fall of 1889, is a native of Alfvesta, Småland, Sweden, having been born there June 16, 1863. He emigrated in 1882, settling at Stillwater, Minn., and joined the

Swedish M. E. church in that city the same year. After working as salesman in a grocery in



PETER MAGNUS ALFVIN

St. Paul, for some time, he began to study for the ministry at the Methodist theological seminary at Evanston, being graduated in 1889 and ordained deacon by Bishop S. M. Merrill of Rockford Sept. 1, the same year. Sept. 17, 1893, he was ordained elder by Bishop William X. Hinde, in Galesburg, Ill. After his ordination in 1889 Rev. Alfvin has served the following congregations: Arlington Hill, St. Paul, Minn., 4 years; Duluth, Minn., 1 year; Humboldt Park, Chicago, 5 years; South Chicago, 3 years, Rockford, 5 years. Rev. Mr. Alfvin is since 1907 stationed at the Madison Av. Swedish M. E. Church in Hyde Park.

JAKOB BONGGREN

has held an editorial position with the Swedish weekly *Svenska Amerikanaren* for twenty-five years, and during that time has established his reputation as a poet, critic and scholar.

Olof Jakob Bonggren was born at Bergane, Håbol parish, in the Swedish province of Dal, Oct. 7, 1852. His father was an old soldier in modest circumstances. At ten, having shown more than ordinary aptitude for study, he was sent to the elementary school at Venersborg, friends providing the funds. After graduation he taught privately until 1875, when



JAKOB BONGGREN

he secured a position as clerk in the post office at Mora, Dalarne.

Mr. Bonggren exhibited literary talent at a very early age. As a boy of seven he wrote some verses on Luther—his first poetic effort—and in 1865 followed poems on Peder Sunnanväder and other

revolutionists of old. Three years later he translated Goethe's "Mignon" into Swedish and in 1871 he became a contributor to a Venersborg paper. In 1878 he published anonymously a translation of Ingersoll's lecture on "Hell and Ghosts;" in 1879, under the pseudonym of Volontaire, a book entitled "Bibeln mot Bibeln," "Läsarelif," by Spectator, and in 1882 a collection of verse, entitled "Förstlingar."

Resigning his position in Mora, in June, 1882, Mr. Bonggren left Sweden, destined for Chicago to take a position as associate editor of *Svenska Amerikanaren*. He has remained with this paper up to the present time, virtually as editor in chief the greater part of the time, and on the 9th of last July the twenty-fifth anniversary of his connection with the paper was celebrated, the publisher and the entire force joining in a dinner given in his honor.

In this country Mr. Bonggren, who has for years been a devoted student of the occult has published a small pamphlet on the subject entitled, "Det hemlighetsfullas verld," besides having written a series of articles on occultism for his paper. He has devoted much of his time to literary research and possesses an exceptional fund of information covering a great variety of subjects. An enormous amount of literary material on every conceivable topic is the result of his activity as a collector and to him no portion or phase of the world's literature is unfamiliar.

In 1902 a second collection of Bonggren's verse was published in Rock Island, entitled "Sånger och Sagor." The author admits that the volume marks a departure from the realistic school of literature in Sweden of which his former collection was one of the first fruits, and owns to a change of mind and heart from the skepticism and radicalism of that school, caused by "greater experience and a deeper conception of life and a larger measure of faith, hope and charity."

His changed convictions in late years have not only affected his Muse but also altered his former habits of life.

Contributions in verse and prose by Bonggren have appeared in a number of publications, including *Kurre*, *Kurre-Kalender* and *Linnea*, also *Prärieblomman*, *Svea*, *Vintersol* and other annuals, published in this country and in Sweden.

Mr. Bonggren bears the title of Doctor of Letters, conferred as an honorary distinction by Bethany College.

Mr. Bonggren has been twice married. The three children of his first marriage are grown. After giving birth to a daughter, his second wife died in 1906.

PETER SCHÖNING

was born Feb. 5, 1869, and hails from Ofvanåker, in Helsingland, whence he emigrated in 1893, and came to Bloomington. His father, Pehr Schöning, was a soldier in

the Swedish army for 33 years and is still living in Ofvanåker. In Bloomington the son established



PETER SCHÖNING

himself as a building contractor. He was a member of the local Swedish Mission Church and a deacon of the church. He has recently moved to Chicago and lives in Pullman.

He is united in marriage to Anna Charlotta Classon from Ukna parish, Småland, with whom he has one child, Edith Elizabeth. There are two children from his wife's former marriage, Hjalmar and Florence Nordin.

FRANS A. LINDSTRAND,

editor and publisher of *Svenska Amerikanaren*, a Swedish weekly newspaper, was born at Armby, in the parish of Stora Åby, Östergötland, Sweden, March 24, 1847. His parents were Gustaf Jonsson and his wife, Eva Gustafson. Both died at the old homestead in Sweden, the mother in 1885, at the age of 75, the father in 1896, as the oldest man in the parish, aged 88 years. The son was born and reared in extreme poverty. Shortly after his confirmation he went to the city of Vadstena, determined to learn a trade. There he became apprenticed to a jeweler and watchmaker and four years later received his trade diploma as journeyman watchmaker. While learning the trade, he employed his spare time in studying arithmetic, penmanship and other elementary subjects under private tutorship, in order to supply the deficiencies in his early education, which was limited



FRANS ALBIN LINDSTRAND

to spelling, reading and catechetical instruction. After the manner of journeymen, he now changed his name, substituting that of Lindstrand for Jonsson. For the next five or six years he worked at his trade in the cities of Motala,

Stockholm, Karlstad and Göteborg, also in Copenhagen just prior to his emigration to America in the spring of 1871. While in Göteborg Mr. Lindstrand was on the point of leaving the workbench to attend some institution of learning with a view to entering some learned profession, but he was dissuaded by his employer.

Coming to Chicago, Mr. Lindstrand continued in the jewelry business for seventeen years, a large part of that time as proprietor of a jewelry store on Twenty-second street.

In the year 1888 he became part owner of *Svenska Amerikanaren* and soon after acquired the controlling interest in that paper, which under his management has attained a measure of success enjoyed by only a few Swedish-American journals. To this he has greatly contributed by writing every week editorials, sketches, essays, fables, etc., first under the pen name Onkel Ola; also under the pseudonyms Albin, Albinus, Observator, —nd, etc. About ten years ago he published a small comic paper, changed later into an illustrated literary weekly, entitled *Iduna*. Since several years back, the weekly *Svenska Världen*, a companion newspaper to *Svenska Amerikanaren*, is published from the same office, the two corresponding to a semi-weekly newspaper. The office is at 35 S. Clark st.

Mr. Lindstrand has traveled extensively, visiting the most interesting points in the United States, Cuba and the Antilles, the various countries of Europe, Asia Minor and North Africa, Egypt and Palestine in particular. For his papers he has written a large number of letters of travel, and the principal results of his observations are embodied in a book of travel published in 1898, entitled "I Öster- och Västerland." He is also author of a book, "Penntecknıngar af Onkel Ola."

Mr. Lindstrand is a public spirited citizen and a man who has ever had the welfare of his fellow countrymen close at heart. He was the virtual organizer of the original Svithiod Society, a forerunner of the Independent order of Svithiod, and the founding of the Swedish National Association was due chiefly to his efforts. For ten years or over he was president of the latter association and he has been and is still the main backer of that organization in its charitable endeavors. He is a popular fraternity man, being affiliated with the Masons, the Knights Templar, the Mystic Shriners, as also with the Svithiod Singing Club. He is also director in the Union State Bank from the time that bank was organized.

In politics Mr. Lindstrand is an Independent and his newspapers are swerved by the same policy. By appointment of Mayor Harrison he served as a member of the Library Board of Chicago for three years, 1903–05. Aside from that he has held no public office.

On May 4, 1881, Mr. Lindstrand was united in marriage to Selma Wennerberg of Göteborg, born

Aug. 29, 1863. A daughter, Hildur C., was born to them March 12, 1882. The Lindstrand family home is a handsome and comfortable residence, located at 6200 Woodlawn ave., in Hyde Park.

WALTER C. FOSTER

was born in Chicago Oct. 5, 1867. His father, a native of Sweden,



WALTER CARL FOSTER

was a prominent member of the Methodist Church on May st. At the time of the great fire in 1871 he was living on the north side. As a child of four he was carried across the Chicago River by his grandmother an instant before the bridge fell. In early childhood he attended the Carpenter School and later, the Metropolitan Business College. Subsequently he learned the art of garment cutting and became the head-cutter of one of Chicago's first tailoring firms, that of Edward Ely. This position was retained for ten years, after which he became associated with Hardy Bros., merchant tailors. The present title of the firm is Hardy Bros., Foster & Co., located at room 404, Atwood Bldg. Mr. Foster's home is at Ravenswood, where he has lived for about fifteen years. He is a member of the Methodist Church at Ravenswood.

Mr. Foster is a member of the National Union. He has served as president of the 29th precinct club of the 26th ward.

AUGUSTA J. OBERG,

born May 17, 1874, is the daughter of John Fredrik Öberg and Mathilda Larson Öberg of Stockholm. For the past twenty-seven years Mr. Öberg has held the position of superintendent of the Reymersholm woolen mills and in 1900 received a medal for long and faithful service. The daugh-



AUGUSTA JOSEPHINE OBERG

ter was born in Nykoping, from which city the family removed to

the capital in 1880. Having attended common and private schools, Miss Oberg came to the United States in 1892. After a brief stay in Cambridge, Ill., she came to Chicago and in 1894 entered the training school for nurses at Augustana Hospital, Chicago. She completed the course in two years and upon her graduation in July, 1896, she took a position as superintendent of Dr. Goodsmith's private sanatarium in this city.

Shortly after the outbreak of the Spanish-American war Miss Oberg was sent to Cuba by the National Emergency Association of Women Physicians, Surgeons and Nurses. She was stationed at Matanzas, where she served on board the American hospital ships that brought in a great number of patients, chiefly yellow fever victims, into that port. She was in the emergency service up to March, 1899.

Relieved from service in Cuba, Miss Oberg made a visit to her old home and spent one year in Stockholm. She returned to Sweden with a view to take up the practice of the professional nurse, but finding the field closed to all except graduates of Swedish training schools, she came back to the United States in September, 1900, since which time she has been engaged in private nursing in Chicago and vicinity.

OLIVER A. LINDER,

associate editor of *Svenska Amerikanaren*, was born at Gylle, near Trelleborg, Sweden, March 29, 1862. His early education was obtained in the public schools, supplemented by private instruc-



OLIVER A. LINDER

tion. At the age of fifteen he began to contribute to the local newspapers, and the following year became the regular local correspondent to *Allehanda* in Trelleborg. In the early part of the year 1880 he came to the United States. While variously employed as a farm hand, a sawmill worker, etc., he kept up his newspaper contributions, which in 1883 led to a situation on *Svenska Amerikanaren*. In 1884 and 1886 he made trips back to Sweden and in the intervals worked in the office of a steamship company, before returning to journalism in 1888, as editor of *Svenska Kuriren*. With that paper he remained only a few months, and next edited successively *Roman-Bladet* of Minneapolis, in 1889, *Humoristen* of Chicago, in 1890, and *Michigan-Tri-*

bunen of Ironwood, and *Nya Verlden* of Story City, Iowa, in 1891. In the spring of the following year he again became a member of the staff of *Svenska Amerikanaren*, a position since held permanently by him.

Mr. Linder is a practical journalist, whose arduous routine of news writing has never been permitted to choke his veins of poetry and humor, although materially limiting their flow. As a humorist he reminds one of Bill Nye, whose style he admits having used as a model. In 1890 and '91 he published a couple of small collections of humor in prose and verse, entitled "Glada Grin." His more recent poetical productions, however, have been mostly in a serious strain. His originality and vigorous diction give him a place among our best writers. Mr. Linder has contributed poems to various publications in book form, including *Prärieblomman*, but most of his verse is still scattered about in newspapers.

During the years devoted to journalism he has made extensive literary collections, which are carefully systematized so as to form an excellent working library. Of late he has also given some time to historical research relative to early Swedish colonization in America. The first result of this line of investigation is a monograph on John Morton, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.

In 1891 Mr. Linder was married to Miss Therese Sennström. They have an only child, a son, named Sven Cyril.

Mrs. Linder, born in Grisslehamn, Sweden, Jan. 24, 1866, also has a literary bent. She early began writing little sketches, making her first appearance in *Praktiken*, a paper published in Kristinehamn, where she attended a girls' seminary. From that time on she has written a considerable number of sketches and short stories for various newspapers and periodicals. During a recent year's sojourn in Sweden she sent a series of letters of travel to *Svenska Amerikanaren*, showing her to be a close observer and a clever and witty narrator.



THERESE LINDER

HENNING JOHNSON, veterinary surgeon, has been a Chicago resident since 1881. That year he came to this country from Jönköping, Sweden, where he was born June 16, 1868, the son of Sven Johanson, a dyer by trade.

Both parents are deceased. As a boy of thirteen Mr. Johnson began attending school in Chicago, shortly after his arrival, finishing grammar school in 1884. Thereupon he entered the Chicago College of Pharmacy, graduating in 1886. After completing the courses in the Chicago Veterinary College, he graduated from that institution in 1892. Entering the employ of Lawrence Hesselroth, he worked under him as a pharmacist for eight years.



HENNING JOHNSON

Dr. Johnson in 1895 was appointed City Veterinary Surgeon by Mayor Swift, and served in that capacity for two years. Subsequently he received the appointment as veterinary surgeon of the Lincoln Park Zoo, an office filled by him up to the present time. As far as known, Dr. Johnson was the first Swedish veterinary surgeon graduated from an American veterinary college.

Dr. Johnson lives with his family at 526 Fullerton ave. His wife, Edith Lillian Chaiser, is the daughter of Andrew and Lottie Chaiser, both deceased. There are two children in his family, Henning Irving and Edith Linnea. The marriage of Dr. and Mrs. Johnson took place Oct. 21, 1894.

Dr. Johnson is a member of the Independent Order of Svithiod and of the Foresters.

EDWIN BOVIK

was born June 6, 1870, in Lysekil, Bohuslän, Sweden. In 1888 he emigrated to the United States coming directly to Chicago. After spending a few years learning the trade, he established himself as a merchant tailor, a business in which he is still engaged at 311 W. Garfield blvd. Since his coming to this country he has always been a Republican



EDWIN BOVIK

in politics. He is a member of Independent Order of Svithiod.

Mr. Bovik was married in 1895 to Miss Maria Holmgren. They have two sons, Le Roy E. and Verner A. Bovik.

WILLIAM LARSON

was born in Guldrupe parish, on the Island of Gotland, Sweden,



WILLIAM LARSON

Nov. 30, 1867, and was raised on a farm owned by his father, Lars Assarsson. His early education and training he obtained in the common school and a sloyd school. Having learned the dyer's trade, he worked at that for six years, after leaving the farm. In 1890, as a young man of twenty-three, he left home and came to the United States, locating in Chicago from the first. For five years he was employed in the Pullman Car Co's shops, putting his knowledge of handicraft to good use.

Leaving on account of what he considered too arbitrary restrictions on the workmen, he obtained a situation with a Swedish weekly newspaper, *Svenska Amerikanaren*, in the month of August, 1895. In this office he is still a member of the force, having steadily advanced from "handy man" about the place to his present position of advertising manager of said paper, together with another weekly, *Svenska Världen*, published from the same office.

Mr. Larson is as clever with the pen as with the pencil. He has written very readable verse and there are many creditable prose sketches from his hand scattered through the files of *Svenska Amerikanaren* and an occasional story or snatch of verse in other publications, including *Prärieblomman*, a Swedish-American literary annual. An inborn talent for drawing and sketching, is responsible for a number of portraits and other illustrations, which have appeared in the public prints.

Mr. Larson was married Dec. 22, 1894. Mrs. Larson was Miss Jenny Gustafson, born in Stora Åby, Östergötland, Sweden. Of four children born to them, two sons are living, Birger Eskil and Carl Gustaf, born, respectively, 1895 and 1900.

EDWARD RAYMOND

was born in Chicago, Feb. 18, 1870. His father was Adolf Fagerlund, but the son retains only the baptismal names. He passed through the public schools and

soon after was engaged as mason and builder. When he entered business in 1890 his enterprise



EDWARD RAYMOND

soon yielded handsome returns. Besides contracting for work he has erected a number of buildings of his own.

In 1897, Mr. Raymond was married to Miss Helga H. Sheall. They have two sons, and reside at 3957 Ridge boul.

Mr. Raymond is a Knight of Pythias and a Mason.

GÖSTA WESTMAN

was born April 1, 1882, in Helsingborg, Sweden. His parents are C. A. L. Westman, former director of telegraph at Malmö, and Mathilda, née Ramberg.

The son enjoyed a thorough education, fitting him for the literary career which he entered upon at an exceptionally early age. He was only seventeen years old when, in 1899, he obtained his first situation on a newspaper, and worked for the next four years on different papers in Helsingborg and Stockholm.

In 1903, Mr. Westman visited the Louisiana Purchase Exposition in St. Louis as the correspondent of *Öresunds-Posten* in Helsingborg. At the close of the exposition he came to Chicago and was persuaded to remain. Securing a position on the *Svenska Nyheter*, as associate editor, he remained with that paper until October, 1906. During this period he contributed a large number of original sketches and feature articles to the paper. In 1907 he returned to Sweden.

Two years before Mr. Westman engaged in journalism he had had his first book published. It was an historical novel, entitled "Åke Ulfsson," a very fair effort on the part of an author fifteen years old. This was followed the next year by a collection of novellettes, entitled "Skämt och Allvar." In 1900 he wrote "Ålandskungen," an historical romance, which was published the following year. In 1903 he brought out another novel, "Testamentet," and a collection of short stories under the common title: "Ur en gammal stadskrönika." The same year he wrote a humorous annual review for stage production, dealing with local affairs in Helsingborg. From 1902–03 he published "*Argus*," a comic paper.

While engaged on *Svenska Nyheter* he wrote a short novel, based on the events of the war between Russia and Japan, entitled "På

lif och död," which ran as a serial in that paper in 1905.

A rich vein of humor, mixed with a dash now and then of satire, flows from Mr. Westman's prolific pen. The first fruits of his work are prophetic of greater things to follow.

JOHN F. LINDQUIST

was born Jan. 28, 1863, in Upsala, Sweden. From his sixth year to his fifteenth year he attended the country school. His father was a physician with an extensive practice. The son often spent his spare time in visiting the sick under his father's care. From the time of his father's death until 1883 he studied with private teachers in Upsala. On Aug. 11, 1893, he arrived in Chicago and here began the study of medicine at Rush Medical College and Harvey Medical College. After securing his medical diploma he took a post-graduate course in the Chicago Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat College. For several years he was connected with the St. Mary's Clinic in Chicago, and was appointed ear, nose and nose specialist at this institution. His downtown office is one of the best appointed in Chicago, and contains apparatus with the newest and best improvements for the treatment of his specialties.

Dr. Lindquist is widely known as a worker in the cause of temperance, having allied himself with local and national temperance societies after his coming to Chicago. He has repeatedly been elected chairman of the Illinois Scandinavian Temperance Association. He is the official physician of all



JOHN FREDRICK LINDQUIST

the national Scandinavian temperance societies and also of many English, Swedish and Spanish fraternal organizations. Dr. Lindquist's principles forbid the use of tobacco in any form. He deprecates the daily use of coffee, tea or alcoholic beverages, although he concedes their value medicinally. He has converted many patients and physicians to his views.

Dr. Lindquist is a member of the Chicago Medical Society, the Cook County Medical Society, the Illinois Medical Association and the American Medical Association.

His religious home is the First Swedish Ev. Lutheran Mission Church. In this church he taught a large class of young men for Bible study for some time, but professional duties lately compelled

him to withdraw from this activity.

Sept. 20, 1900, he was united in marriage to Miss Agnes Linquist, of Chicago. To them a daughter, Grace, and two sons, Raymond and Harry, have been born.

NILS P. SEVERIN,

contractor and builder, was born in Skåne, Sweden, March 30, 1861,



NILS P. SEVERIN

his parents being Per Nilsson and Elna Nilsson, farmer folk. What education the son received was acquired in the common schools, in the intervals of farm work. At seventeen years of age he engaged himself with a carpenter contractor to learn the trade. After four years' work he was promoted to a foremanship of a building crew, retaining that position until he left for the United States in 1888.

Mr. Severin located in Chicago and began contracting for buildings here in the fall of the same year. Since that time he has erected a large number of buildings in this city, including several large structures and fourteen churches.

He is affiliated with the following associations and business interests: the Carpenters' and Builders' Association; the Chicago Cemetery Association, as vice-president; the Swedish-American Hospital Association as a member of the board of directors; also director in the Scandia Life Insurance Company and president of the Swedish Baptist Mutual Aid Association. His business office is at 103 Reaper Block.

Mr. Severin is a man of family, having been married Dec. 30, 1885, to Miss Hanna Anderson of Frenninge, in his own native province, where she was born Jan. 2, 1860. Their children, with year of birth, are: Alfred N., 1887; Esther I., 1890; Enoch N., 1893, and Clara V., 1895.

MARGARET C. E. DAHLSTROM,

well known in musical circles as a vocalist and teacher of brilliant attainments, was born May 9, 1873, in Port Henry, N. Y.

Her voice, early in life being recognized as one of great promise, she was placed under local teachers and made rapid progress.

After some years of study in eastern cities she came to Chicago, to become a pupil of John R. Ortengren, with whom she re-

mained for several years, eventually graduating with high honors.

In 1902 Miss Dahlstrom associated herself with the Balatka



MARGARET CHRISTINE E. DAHLSTROM

Musical College as an instructor in the vocal department, where she has a large class.

Miss Dahlstrom is a member of the Sixth Presbyterian Church Quartette, the Hebrew Temple Quartette and also of the Swedish Ladies' Quartette. Her voice is a contralto of large range, sonorous and mellow, and capable of interpreting the most tender feeling. Her singing has a charm and resonance to which every audience is responsive. She has an extensive repertory of oratorios and songs.

JOHAN ALFRED ENANDER, poet, author, lecturer, editor, and historian, was born in a peasant's home in Skinmoen, Härja parish, Vestergötland, Sweden, May 22, 1842. From his childhood he manifested an eagerness for reading, but opportunity for study was lacking. He was held to the duties of the average farmer boy. At the age of fifteen he left the parental home, (the family had removed to Bredgården, near the city of Borås) for a distant school, where he pursued his studies for some time under privations and hardships resulting from lack of means. Leaving school at the age of nineteen he secured a position in a county office. Seeing no future in that line of work, Enander cast about for other employment. He began contributing to local papers and wrote a "His-



JOHAN ALFRED ENANDER

tory of Mormonism," published in 1865 to counteract the spread of that doctrine in the province. After enjoying private instruction by several teachers, young Enander, in 1866, entered the sixth

class of the collegiate school at Venersborg.

In order to make his way he acted as private tutor and as assistant teacher in the city's trade school, besides continuing to write for the papers. Per Wieselgren and Dr. Peter Fjellstedt counselled him to apply to the Board of Directors of Augustana College and Theological Seminary for free tuition and maintenance. This advice was followed and the request was granted. He left Göteborg for America Aug. 6, 1869, and proceeded to Paxton, Ill., where the institution was then located. The newcomer gained entrance to the highest class and began his theological studies, but continued only to the end of the term when his newspaper experience secured him the position of editor of *Hemlandet*, the organ of the Augustana Synod. Accepting the place, Enander came to this city and entered upon his life career.

In the great fire of 1871, Enander lost all the little he possessed. He was appointed chairman of the Scandinavian Relief Committee and during the winter was tireless in his efforts for the needy and destitute. His health was undermined about this time and at the advice of his physician he took a trip to Mexico. Returning to Chicago in improved health, he appeared in 1872 for the first time as political orator making a speaking tour in company with Governor Oglesby in behalf of General Grant's reelection to the presidency.

The same year Enander entered into partnership with G. A. Bohman, purchased *Hemlandet* and made it a political newspaper, Enander continuing as its editor.

Besides his work in *Hemlandet*, Enander exerted himself in other directions. The first Swedish-American Young People's Society was organized by his direction under the auspices of the Immanuel Swedish Lutheran Church in Chicago. He also developed considerable activity as writer and publisher. About this time he edited a literary monthly of high excellence, *När och Fjerran*, published by his firm. In 1879–81 another publication, entitled *Ungdoms-Vännen*, was edited by him.

In 1876 Mr. Enander was chosen by the festival committee of the Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia to deliver the address on the day set aside for the Swedish celebration.

In 1878 Mr. Enander accompanied the American delegates to the International Congress which then met in Stockholm.

Enander was one the prime movers in having erected a monument to Carl von Linné (Linnæus), a replica of a statue erected in Stockholm. The Linné Monument Association, formed for this purpose, chose him as chairman, a place which he resigned before the work was completed. On the day of unveiling, May 23, 1891, he delivered the festival oration.

During all presidential campaigns for the past thirty years Mr. Enander has been an able

champion of the principles of the Republican party. By direction of the Republican National Committee, he has traveled through almost all the states in which Swedish-Americans reside, making stiring political speeches to his countrymen. President Harrison in 1888 appointed Mr. Enander American Minister to Denmark, but before he could leave for the post untoward circumstances cut short his ambition to represent the Republic in the Danish capital, and another man was selected in his stead.

In 1890, Mr. Enander was called by the Board of Directors of Augustana College to the chair of Swedish Language and Literature. He served until 1893 when he resigned his chair. In the meantime the firm of Enander and Bohman had experienced financial troubles, leading to the dissolution of the copartnership.

After a year of literary work at home, Enander for two years edited *Svenska Journalen*, a Swedish weekly published in Omaha, Neb. At the invitation of the newly organized Hemlandet Company in Chicago, he again assumed the editorship of *Hemlandet* in 1896.

Enander from the time of his coming to this country has been an interested member of the Swedish-American Lutheran Church. The Augustana Synod has entrusted to him many responsible commissions. At an audience with King Oscar II. in 1878, he was fortunate in obtaining from the King, and later the university authorities, permission for Swedish-American college graduates to enter the Swedish universities without examination. As a member of the synodical assemblies he has fathered and furthered many measures of importance to the church.

Enander has been much in demand as orator. The principal occasions at which he has been the speaker of the day, besides the aforesaid, are the following: the reception to the military delegation from Sweden at the Chicago Semi-Centenary in 1887; Swedish Day at the World's Fair in Chicago in 1893; the King Oscar Jubilee in Chicago in 1897; Swedish-American Day at the Industrial Exposition in Norrköping, Sweden in 1906.

In 1902 the Board of Directors of Augustana College conferred on Enander the degree of LL. D., and in 1905 he received from King Oscar the "Literis et Artibus" medal in recognition of his authorship. He is also the possessor of a Polish honorary order given as a mark of gratitude for actual efforts in behalf of Poland at the time of its struggle for independence in the '60s.

Enander's published works and compilations, besides the Mormon history above mentioned, are the following: "Förenta Staternas Historia," (United States History), a work published in Chicago, 1875–1880. This work, has been translated into Dano-Norwegian and in part into English. "Valda

Skrifter," (Selected Works), an illustrated work published in 1892 in Chicago, comprising addresses, historical essays, narratives and poems. "Nordmännen i Amerika eller Amerikas upptäckt," (The Northmen in America, or The Discovery of America) an historical dissertation, published in Rock Island, Ill., in 1892. "Våra Fäders Sinnelag," (The Character of our Ancestors), published in Stockholm in 1894. "Ur Svenska Sången," an anthology of Swedish poetry from 1800 to 1850, published at Rock Island in 1901. "Linnæa," a collection of verse by Swedish-American writers published and sold for the benefit of the Linnæan monument fund. "Eterneller och Vårblommor," a collection of standard religious and patriotic poems from Swedish literature.

Enander has, besides, contributed to newspapers and literary annuals in Sweden and the United States, among which may be mentioned the annuals *Vintersol*, in Sweden, and *Prärieblomman* in this country.

Dr. Enander is a member, active or honorary, of several civic, historical and literary societies.

At 55 Oak place in Lake View, Dr. Enander and his family have resided for many years back. His marriage took place June 22, 1873, at Paxton, Ill., Mrs. Enander, whose maiden name was Melinda Lawson, is the daughter of one of the earliest Swedish settlers in the West. There are three grown children, the daughters Ada Elvira Angelika and Hilma Louise Alfhild, and the son, Johan Einar Hilding.

CARL T. STRANDBERG

belongs to the well-known Swedish family of this name. Mr.



CARL THORSTEN STRANDBERG

Strandberg was born Jan. 22, 1861, at Tomta, Hallsberg parish, Nerike, Sweden. After having completed his education in Sweden, he went to America, arriving in the month of June, 1888. He soon obtained a position as bookkeeper on the Board of Trade in Chicago. In 1890 he accepted a position as chief clerk with the large transportation firm of Peter McDonnell & Co., in their Chicago offices and remained with this firm for more than seven years. In 1898, Mr. Strandberg was appointed business manager of the well-known newspaper *Gamla och Nya Hemlandet*, and later was elected its treasurer.

Mr. Strandberg is also an officer

and director in the Scandia Loan and Investment Association, and holds positions of trust in several other enterprises.

In 1889, Mr. Strandberg was joined in matrimony with Miss Ellen Victoria Pedro, who was for many years private secretary to the renowned Swedish novelist, Emilie Flygare-Carlén. Mr. and Mrs. Strandberg have one child, a daughter, Elsa Victoria. The family residence is at 1227 North Shore ave., Rogers Park.

ANNA C. FREID

was born March 20, 1848, at Pelarne, Småland, Sweden. Her



ANNA CHARLOTTA FREID

parents, Johan Magnus Freid och Anna Helena, née Peterson, emigrated to this country in 1857 and settled on a farm in Andover, Ill., where they died in 1891.

The daughter was confirmed by the pioneer, Rev. Jonas Swensson, and later became a professional nurse. In 1884 she was called to the newly established Augustana Hospital in Chicago as head nurse and matron of the institution, retaining both positions until she resigned in 1896.

Miss Freid made a tour of England, France, Germany, Sweden, Finland and Norway in 1896 and and again in 1898, studying hospitals and deaconess institutions. She was one of the leading figures in the establishment of the Immanuel Woman's Home Association at 577½ La Salle ave. and is the president and treasurer of its board of trustees. Its object is to provide a home under Christian influences for such young women as are temporarily out of work and also for those who have no other home. It will also be a social gathering place for such members as are employed but do not live there. The home was opened Sept. 7, 1907.

Miss Freid is a member of the Immanuel Swedish Luth. Church since 1886 and is a life member of the Immanuel Deaconess Institute at Omaha, Neb. She spends her summers at Pistakee Bay, McHenry co., Ill., where she has a summer cottage.

JOHN A. SANDGREN,

high secretary of the Independent Order of Svithiod, was born at Mortorp, Småland, April 10, 1871.

His father, C. A. Sandgren, is a leather manufacturer and a man of consequence in the community, now holding the office of postmaster at Mortorp where he

resides. He is also the owner of a beautiful farm at Kulltorp. There were ten children in the family,



JOHN ALBERT SANDGREN

five of whom survive. The elder Sandgren aimed to give his children a fair education, and the son John, after attending common school and enjoying private instruction, was given a course first at a business college in Kalmar, then at an agricultural school at Applerum, where he studied only the theoretical branches. His education finished, John Sandgren held a situation as a bookkeeper on Baron Stjernstedts large estate at Lökene, Vermland, until 1891, when he came over to the United States. Here the newcomer during the first year worked at whatever he could find to do. He was at Sheffield, Pa., Jamestown and Buffalo, N. Y., and elsewhere, stopping a short time in each place. In the fall of 1892 he came on to Chicago and soon obtained a clerical position with the Chicago Title and Trust Company and remained with this firm for eight years. In 1902 he was elected high secretary of the Independent Order of Svithiod and is still in charge of the headquarters of that order at 525 Reaper block.

Besides holding membership in the Verdandi Lodge of said order, Mr. Sandgren belongs to the King Oscar Lodge of the Masonic Order. He is also the treasurer of the Swedish Societies Central Association, a charitable organization maintaining the Swedish Old Peoples' Home at Park Ridge, Illinois.

Mr. Sandgren was married Jan. 11, 1899, to Miss Thekla C. Bogren of Chicago. They live in a home of their own at 3361 North Ashland ave.

LARS JOHNSON

was born Dec. 22, 1853, in Hasselstad, Ronneby parish, Blekinge, Sweden, where he was educated in the public, grammar and high schools. Attracted by the greater chances offered in the New World, he came over to this country in September, 1879. For the last eighteen years Mr. Johnson has been engaged in the business of buying and selling of western and southern lands. His office is at room 1023, Chamber of Commerce Building, Chicago.

Mr. Johnson was married in

1889 to Hilma L. Carlson. They have a daughter, Myrtle, now about fifteen years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are members of the Swedish Lutheran Church.

ROBERT ANDERSON

was born Dec. 11, 1870, in Gustaf Adolf parish, Vestergötland,



ROBERT ANDERSON

Sweden. His early education was obtained in the public schools in Sweden. He learned the painter's trade in Jönköping. In 1887 he emigrated and came directly to Chicago. He worked at his trade during the day, and at night attended the night school. After three years of intense application he began his own business. In 1895 he formed a partnership with E. Osterholm with the firm name of Anderson and Osterholm. The business started with five men and a business of about $5,000 a year. It now requires 75 men and the volume of the business is more than $100,000 a year. The firm was incorporated in 1902 as the Anderson and Osterholm Co. Paint stores are maintained at 1202 W. 59th st. and 3200 N. Clark st.

Mr. Anderson has been a trustee of the Swedish Mission Church in Englewood for the past sixteen years, and its Sunday school superintendent for many years. He is a member of the board of directors of Englewood Hospital and many other organizations.

In 1890 Mr. Anderson entered the matrimonial state with Miss Selma Holtzen of Chicago. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson have a pleasant home and are blessed with two children, Sigurd, aged fifteen and Alice, aged five years.

GUSTAVE JACOBSON

was born Oct. 13, 1873, at Grangesberg, Dalarne, Sweden. Emigrating in 1884 with his parents, he went to Chicago. After attending the public school he started in the printing trade at the Engberg-Holmberg Publishing Co.'s. office in 1887. Since then he has worked in various places, among them *Fosterlandet* and *Svenska Tribunen* offices. Since 1903 he has conducted a linotype office. He also has charge of the *Hemlandet* printing department.

Mr. Jacobson is a member of Verdandi Lodge No. 3, I. O. S., the N. S. B. A. and of the Swedish Typographical Union No. 247.

He was married June 25, 1896, to Beda Dorothea Swanson, born Feb. 5, 1873, at Nås, Dalarne,



GUSTAVE JACOBSON

Sweden. Their children are Mabel D., Roswell G., Clifford A. and Vivian S. Jacobson. The family resides at 927 Devon ave., Edgewater.

EMIL SHERMAN

was born Feb. 12, 1865, in Stora Forssa, Hammar parish, Nerike, Sweden. His early education was obtained in the Swedish public school. In 1881 he emigrated, arriving in America in July. The young man here went to work in a meat market, and finally became the proprietor of a market at 75 Sedgwick st. In 1907 he opened a restaurant next door to his meat market.

Mr. Sherman not only has pronounced musical tastes but is also gifted with a talent for composition, having written several pieces for the piano. Two of these have been published, bearing the titles, "Peace and Prosperity to All Nations," a march, and "Uncle the Great," a march and two-step.

A novel piece of furniture called the rocking modore has been patented by Mr. Sherman in the United States, Canada and several European countries. It is a rocking footrest on which the feet are elevated on a level with the body and which swings with each motion of the occupant of a rocking chair.

Mr. Sherman was married Nov. 21, 1885, to Clara Johanson, born



EMIL SHERMAN

in Varola parish, Vestergötland. Their children are Ella Victoria, born Nov. 5, 1886 and Gustaf William, born July 4, 1888.

AXEL W. AKESSON

was born in Lund, Sweden, March 22, 1872. He was educated in the Lund Cathedral School, and

then, having obtained a stipend for five years from the Royal College of Commerce, went to Berlin,



AXEL WICTOR AKESSON

where he attended a technical school, thereupon going to Vienna, Zürich, Paris and London to various schools.

Returning to Stockholm, Mr. Akesson took a thorough course at the Kjellberg Institute. He went to Chicago in 1891, and is now the proprietor of the Kellberg Institute for massage and medical gymnastics at 1107 Champlain Building.

Mr. Akesson is a member of King Oscar Lodge of Free Masons, the Oriental Consistory, the Mystic Shrine, the First Swedish Lodge of Odd Fellows, the Swedish Glee Club and the Svithiod Singing Club.

On Jan. 17, 1902, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Akesson to Anna Grönquist, who is his able assistant.

GUSTAF HOLMQUIST

was born in the Swedish city of Nora, Vestmanland, Feb. 14, 1872, and was reared there until thirteen years of age, when the family emigrated to Minneapolis, Minn. The same year, 1885, the young man joined a mixed choir as alto singer, but his musical training did not begin until he reached the age of twenty-one. Then he became a pupil of A. W. Porter of Minneapolis, continuing under his instruction for four years, or until 1897, when Mr. Holmquist interrupted his studies for a year by going to Alaska as the superintendent of a gang of road builders. Returning in 1898, he resumed



GUSTAF HOLMQUIST

his musical studies and two years later came to Chicago. Here he placed himself under the direction of W. N. Burritt and W. L. Hubbard, who have taken pride in the training and further develop-

ment of Mr. Holmquist's excellent voice.

While in Minneapolis, Mr. Holmquist was one of the prominent soloists of that city, singing in the Westminster, the Presbyterian and other large churches. Since coming to Chicago, he has been a member of the splendid quartet of the Plymouth Church for seven years.

Gustaf Holmquist, within the last few years has made for himself an enviable place among the ablest bassos of the United States. Possessing a voice of exceptionally rich, sympathetic quality, of great power and of wide range, he is peculiarly fitted for every kind of public concert work from oratorio and festival performances to song recitals and private musicales.

During the season of 1901 he was one of the soloists selected for the Chautauqua Assembly concerts.

Mr. Holmquist has been twice engaged as soloist for the singing festivals of the American Union of Swedish Singers, namely at Jamestown in 1901 and at Chicago in 1905. He was soloist at the festivals of the Eastern division of the above organization at Boston in 1903 and Providence in 1907, and at the Western division's festival in Moline 1907. The United Norwegian Singers of America chose him as soloist at their festivals in Sioux Falls in 1902 and at La Crosse in 1905.

In 1903 he received the flattering offer to go to the St. Louis Exposition as baritone soloist of the Evanston Musical Club. There he sang in an oratorio, the excellent rendition of which brought the club a competitive prize of $3,500.

The Apollo Club of Chicago chose him as bass soloist in "Messiah" and in Gabriel Pierne's "The Children's Crusade."

His successes with the leading choral societies of the country, as the bass soloist in Handel's "Messiah," "The Creation" of Haydn, Mendelssohn's "Elijah" and "St. Paul," Gounod's "Redemption" and kindred works prove him an oratorio singer par excellence.

His song recitals have been the subject of most enthusiastic approval, his interpretation of the standard German and English songs winning him only highest commendation and his authoritative rendition of the Swedish folk- and art-songs lending peculiar interest and novelty to his programs.

May 23, 1893, Mr. Holmquist was married to Miss Olivia Ogren at Minneapolis.

JOHN A. WESTERLUND

was born June 10, 1865, near Orion, Ill., and is the son of Peter Westerlund, one of the earliest Swedish settlers in Henry county. Until he was eighteen years of age he worked on his father's farm. Being desirous of a higher education he attended Bethany College at Lindsborg, Kans., for six years and was graduated in 1891, in the classical course, with the degree of A. B., being a member of the first class sent out from

the institution. In the same year he went to Chicago, engaging in the real estate and insurance bus-



JOHN A. WESTERLUND

iness. He also identified himself with the colonization and immigration business in the South and West. With the exception of five years spent in the South, he has been making Chicago his home.

Since 1902 he has operated extensively in Oregon and Washington and in western Nebraska acting as special traveling immigration agent for the Union Pacific R. R. and as state commissioner of immigration of Oregon by appointment of Governor Chamberlain. In 1903 he founded and organized the Western Oregon Orchard Company, which now is one of the largest fruit growing concerns of its kind on the Pacific coast.

Mr. Westerlund has traveled extensively, having visited every state in the Union, and in 1897 made a tour through England, Germany and the three Scandinavian countries.

Feb. 23, 1898, Mr. Westerlund was married to Miss Ella Cornelia Holmberg, adopted daughter of the late C. P. Holmberg, the veteran Chicago publisher. Mr. and Mrs. Westerlund reside in Sheridan Park, and are members of the Lutheran Church. They are both active in the church, Mr. Westerlund serving as trustee.

JOHAN A. LINDEBORG

was born Feb. 6, 1835, in Kråkshult, Småland, Sweden. His father, Johan Peter Olofson, a farmer, was born in 1804 and died



JOHAN A. LINDEBORG

in 1890. His mother, Sara Lisa Svensdotter from Rumskulla, died in 1860, aged fifty years. In his early days he was occupied in farming and various mechanical pursuits. He studied four terms at the elementary school in Ahlsborg in

1862–63. Subsequently he was engaged as assistant teacher in Rev. B. G. Glasell's institute for the deaf and dumb and the blind at Nya Varfvet in Göteborg. In 1867 Mr. Lindeborg left this position to emigrate, and first located in La Porte and South Bend, Ind. where he was employed as a cabinetmaker in the Singer Sewing Machine Co.'s factory. He was next employed in the Pullman shops, and worked for various periods of time at fine interior finishing in Chicago.

Mr. Lindeborg was engaged as a salesman in the book store of Enander & Bohman for six years and in that of the Engberg-Holmberg Publishing Co. for two years.

Mr. Lindeborg has been active in politics, served repeatedly as election clerk and was once a delegate to the county convention. He has been an unswerving Republican since he acquired American citizenship, and has taken part by discussion and vote in every campaign since 1868.

He is a member of the Immanuel Swedish Lutheran Church of Chicago. He served as secretary for ten years, taught in the Bible classes of the Sunday school for twelve years, and as a member of the Immanuel Society served as secretary for a number of years and frequently took part in its literary programs.

At present he is engaged in the H. M. Cable piano works at La Porte, Ind.

He was married to Karolina Josefina Widerström. Their one daughter, Alida, is Mrs. V. O. Peterson of Rock Island.

SVEN JOHAN SEBELIUS,

minister of the Swedish Lutheran Augustana Synod, is the son of



SVEN JOHAN SEBELIUS

Sebelius Anderson, a carpenter of Tvååker, Halland, Sweden, where he was born April 4, 1874. The family left the old country in 1879, stopping in Pennsylvania, where they resided at Clermont, McIntire and Peale, and finally settled at Du Bois. In the public schools the son obtained his fundamental education and after that entered Augustana College. From that institution he graduated in 1901 with the degree of A. B. and from Augustana Theological Seminary three years later as a Bachelor of Divinity. While at college Mr. Sebelius was an earnest student of the literature of the

mother country and was one of the organizers of the Swedish Society of Belles Lettres, becoming one of the five charter members and serving one term as its president.

Since his ordination in 1904, Rev. Mr. Sebelius has been in charge of the Siloa Swedish Lutheran Church at Blue Island, one of the suburbs of Chicago. He is a member of the Swedish Lutheran Ministerial Association of Chicago.

The Rev. Mr. Sebelius was married Sept. 25, 1907, to Miss Emily Anderson of Portland, Conn.

MARIE SWANSON

was born Aug. 31, 1875, in Härlöf, Kristianstad, Sweden. Her



MARIE SWANSON

father is Sven Johanson, now a resident of Chicago. She came to this country in 1892. Having received her fundamental education in her native land, Miss Swanson came to this city, where she attended Harvey Medical College for three years. Later on she attended the American Medical College in St. Louis, Mo., graduating therefrom April 21, 1903. The state medical examinations in both Missouri and Illinois have been successfully passed by her.

Dr. Swanson is a member of the Knights and Ladies of Security, Independent Order of Foresters and of the Royal Neighbors of America. She is medical examiner of Harmony Council No. 928 of K. & L. of S., of Companion Court New Monitor No. 427 I. O. F. and of Ravenswood Camp No. 3053 R. N. of A.

JOHN E. MOHLIN

was born Jan. 18, 1863, in Kalmar, Sweden. His early training



JOHN EDVARD MOHLIN

he received in a business college of his home city. In 1886 he emigrated to America and went

immediately to Chicago, which place has since been his home.

After the lapse of a few years he began business as a mason contractor together with John Woodstrom. This business was incorporated in 1898 as the Lake View Building Company.

Mr. Mohlin is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Ravenswood.

EUGENE L. SWENSON,

son of Carl Swenson, a wholesale fish dealer, was born March 12,



EUGENE L. SWENSON

1879, in Chicago. After graduating from the Franklin School, he attended the English High and Manual Training School and the Chicago Athenæum.

Having gained a general business experience during the past few years, Mr. Swenson in 1905 organized Swenson's Land Agency, with office at 171 La Salle st., for the purpose of attracting Swedish colonists to Bovina, Texas, a new settlement in the northwestern part of that state. Farmers in the northern states are finding that they can sell their farms and obtain with the proceeds from five to ten times as much equally fertile land in Texas as they originally owned. Mr. Swenson is the owner of Swenson's Hotel in Bovina.

He is a member of the Immanuel Swedish Lutheran Church of Chicago.

In June, 1906, he was united in marriage to Miss Torell, daughter of Rev. J. Torell of Swedesburg, Neb.

A. P. MARTIN,

Swedish Lutheran minister, was born Nov. 17, 1858, in Gud-



A. P. MARTIN

mundtorp parish, Skåne, Sweden. When but a child of eight he was deprived of a home through the sudden death of his father. At

twelve he came to America, and after due preparation entered Augustana College and Theological Seminary, was ordained pastor of the Augustana Synod in Minneapolis June 27, 1886, and entered the service of the church at Sioux City, Iowa.

During the summer of 1900 he visited Sweden, Norway, Denmark and England. In the same year he accepted a call as a Lutheran missionary in Utah. After laboring in this field for five years, he served for three years as pastor of the church at Eureka, Cal. While there he acted as secretary of the California Conference.

In the fall of 1898 Rev. Martin removed to Blue Island, Ill., as pastor of the Siloa Church. In 1904 he accepted a call to Stratford, Ia. Since September, 1907, he is stationed at Sharon Springs, Kansas.

Oct. 10, 1894, Rev. Martin was married to Miss Ella Theresia Wahlquist. Their children are: Daniel Theophilus, Helga Naomi and Philemon Jonathan.

FRANK ROSBERG

was born Sept. 29, 1854, in Småland, Sweden. With his parents he emigrated to the United States in 1856 and settled in Chicago. Frank attended the old Kinzie School on the north side. He then obtained employment in the printing trade, and has been a cylinder pressman for over thirty years, having had a press room for more than fifteen years.

Mr. Rosberg is married, his wife being Mattie Surrean, a native of Sweden. They have two sons and two daughters, and live in



FRANK ROSBERG

their own residence at 5251 Artesian ave.

FRED J. NELSON

was born July 16, 1866, in Östra Ny parish, Sweden. Since his arrival to this country in 1877 he has resided in Florence, Wis., Iron Mountain, Mich., and Chicago. The parents are Nils J. Nilson, a merchant in Brunnby, and his wife, Carolina.

Mr. Nelson was for four years employed as a switchman on the Northwestern Railroad, later going into business as a coal dealer and furniture mover in partnership with Mr. Westerberg. Their office is at 3569 N. Clark st.

For many years Mr. Nelson has been closely identified with church work. He is a member of the Ebenezer Swedish Luth. Church.

and has faithfully served as a deacon, Sunday school teacher and treasurer of the church.



FRED J. NELSON

His marriage to Miss Augusta Emelia Nelson has been blessed with three children, Signe, Harry and Judith.

ROBERT LINDBLOM,

for thirty years one of the foremost Swedish-American citizens of Chicago, was born in Asker parish, Nerike, Sweden, Nov. 17, 1844. He received his fundamental education in a school at Högsjö, Södermanland, and for a time was in the service of the government survey. Prior to his emigration to America, Mr. Lindblom had taken a course in a commercial school and had learned the rudiments of banking at Örebro, so that when he came here in 1864, he already possessed a fair knowledge of business principles. The following year we find Lindblom in Milwaukee, as an employee in the grain, packing and elevator business of the firm of L. H. Higby & Co., with whom he advanced to the position of cashier. In 1873 he established himself in the grain and commission business on his own account.

Four years later he removed to Chicago, where he was a successful operator on the Board of Trade for many years. Lindblom was a veteran of many notable deals in grain. During the period of 1880 to 1883, when speculation was at its height, there were few operators who could match him in shrewd trading, and he frequently bought and sold blocks of half a



ROBERT LINDBLOM

million bushels of wheat and corn at a time. As indicated by his huge financial operations, Lindblom at this time was a man of wealth, but his fortune is said to have been shattered in the famous Leiter "May corner" a decade

ago. He was a member of the principal commercial organizations in the country, viz., the Milwaukee and Minneapolis Chambers of Commerce, New York Consolidated Stock Exchange, New York Produce Exchange, Pittsburg Stock Exchange and St. Louis Merchants' Exchange, besides the Chicago Board of Trade and Chicago Stock Exchange.

About eighteen years ago Lindblom became closely connected with the "farmers' movement" and contributed by speech and pen in the effort to bring about a reform in the system of handling farm products. He was from that time on a constant advocate of the abolition of option trading on boards of trade, favoring trading in actual grain instead.

Lindblom affiliated chiefly with the Democratic party, but on occasion gave his support to the Socialists, without, however, parading his friendship for the labor element as a device for attaining political preferment. In 1893 he was appointed a member of the Board of Education, and was chairman of its finance committee from then until 1896. In 1898 Mayor Harrison prevailed upon him to become a member of the Civil Service Commission of Chicago, and Mr. Lindblom served as president of that body for four years, until July, 1902. During the period of 1893 to 1897 he was a member of Governor John P. Altgeld's staff, with the honorary title of Colonel.

We find Lindblom among the original promoters of the World's Columbian Exposition. He became one of its thirty-six directors, and as chairman of the committee on promotion wrote the first appeal to the people of the Mississippi Valley. While in Washington before the Senate, he was one of five men to subscribe the half million dollars then lacking to complete Chicago's pledge of ten million dollars. Mr. Lindblom served, besides, as acting commissioner of the Swedish exhibit until the arrival of Arthur Leffler, the regular commissioner. For his services to Sweden in that capacity and otherwise in connection with the World's Fair, he was decorated by King Oscar with the Order of Vasa.

In the early nineties Lindblom launched in the publishing business with a daily newspaper, the Chicago *Press*. The enterprise, however, did not carry itself, and the paper suspended publication after a brief existence. In collaboration with Ira C. Emery, Lindblom wrote a book, entitled "Unrest," a sociological novel, in which his virile pen deals ingeniously with a number of political and social problems. He was a more forcible than fluent public speaker, who, forced to the front by his personal prominence in the community, often appeared before his fellow countrymen on public occasions.

He was a member of the Union League Club and the Swedish Glee Club and of a number of other organizations in this city

class of the collegiate school at Venersborg.

In order to make his way he acted as private tutor and as assistant teacher in the city's trade school, besides continuing to write for the papers. Per Wieselgren and Dr. Peter Fjellstedt counselled him to apply to the Board of Directors of Augustana College and Theological Seminary for free tuition and maintenance. This advice was followed and the request was granted. He left Göteborg for America Aug. 6, 1869, and proceeded to Paxton, Ill., where the institution was then located. The newcomer gained entrance to the highest class and began his theological studies, but continued only to the end of the term when his newspaper experience secured him the position of editor of *Hemlandet*, the organ of the Augustana Synod. Accepting the place, Enander came to this city and entered upon his life career.

In the great fire of 1871, Enander lost all the little he possessed. He was appointed chairman of the Scandinavian Relief Committee and during the winter was tireless in his efforts for the needy and destitute. His health was undermined about this time and at the advice of his physician he took a trip to Mexico. Returning to Chicago in improved health, he appeared in 1872 for the first time as political orator making a speaking tour in company with Governor Oglesby in behalf of General Grant's reelection to the presidency.

The same year Enander entered into partnership with G. A. Bohman, purchased *Hemlandet* and made it a political newspaper, Enander continuing as its editor.

Besides his work in *Hemlandet*, Enander exerted himself in other directions. The first Swedish-American Young People's Society was organized by his direction under the auspices of the Immanuel Swedish Lutheran Church in Chicago. He also developed considerable activity as writer and publisher. About this time he edited a literary monthly of high excellence, *När och Fjerran*, published by his firm. In 1879–81 another publication, entitled *Ungdoms-Vännen*, was edited by him.

In 1876 Mr. Enander was chosen by the festival committee of the Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia to deliver the address on the day set aside for the Swedish celebration.

In 1878 Mr. Enander accompanied the American delegates to the International Congress which then met in Stockholm.

Enander was one the prime movers in having erected a monument to Carl von Linné (Linnæus), a replica of a statue erected in Stockholm. The Linné Monument Association, formed for this purpose, chose him as chairman, a place which he resigned before the work was completed. On the day of unveiling, May 23, 1891, he delivered the festival oration.

During all presidential campaigns for the past thirty years Mr. Enander has been an able

champion of the principles of the Republican party. By direction of the Republican National Committee, he has traveled through almost all the states in which Swedish-Americans reside, making stiring political speeches to his countrymen. President Harrison in 1888 appointed Mr. Enander American Minister to Denmark, but before he could leave for the post untoward circumstances cut short his ambition to represent the Republic in the Danish capital, and another man was selected in his stead.

In 1890, Mr. Enander was called by the Board of Directors of Augustana College to the chair of Swedish Language and Literature. He served until 1893 when he resigned his chair. In the meantime the firm of Enander and Bohman had experienced financial troubles, leading to the dissolution of the copartnership.

After a year of literary work at home, Enander for two years edited *Svenska Journalen*, a Swedish weekly published in Omaha, Neb. At the invitation of the newly organized Hemlandet Company in Chicago, he again assumed the editorship of *Hemlandet* in 1896.

Enander from the time of his coming to this country has been an interested member of the Swedish-American Lutheran Church. The Augustana Synod has entrusted to him many responsible commissions. At an audience with King Oscar II. in 1878, he was fortunate in obtaining from the King, and later the university authorities, permission for Swedish-American college graduates to enter the Swedish universities without examination. As a member of the synodical assemblies he has fathered and furthered many measures of importance to the church.

Enander has been much in demand as orator. The principal occasions at which he has been the speaker of the day, besides the aforesaid, are the following: the reception to the military delegation from Sweden at the Chicago Semi-Centenary in 1887; Swedish Day at the World's Fair in Chicago in 1893; the King Oscar Jubilee in Chicago in 1897; Swedish-American Day at the Industrial Exposition in Norrköping, Sweden in 1906.

In 1902 the Board of Directors of Augustana College conferred on Enander the degree of LL. D., and in 1905 he received from King Oscar the "Literis et Artibus" medal in recognition of his authorship. He is also the possessor of a Polish honorary order given as a mark of gratitude for actual efforts in behalf of Poland at the time of its struggle for independence in the '60s.

Enander's published works and compilations, besides the Mormon history above mentioned, are the following: "Förenta Staternas Historia," (United States History), a work published in Chicago, 1875–1880. This work, has been translated into Dano-Norwegian and in part into English. "Valda

Skrifter," (Selected Works), an illustrated work published in 1892 in Chicago, comprising addresses, historical essays, narratives and poems. "Nordmännen i Amerika eller Amerikas upptäckt," (The Northmen in America, or The Discovery of America) an historical dissertation, published in Rock Island, Ill., in 1892. "Våra Fäders Sinnelag," (The Character of our Ancestors), published in Stockholm in 1894. "Ur Svenska Sången," an anthology of Swedish poetry from 1800 to 1850, published at Rock Island in 1901. "Linnæa," a collection of verse by Swedish-American writers published and sold for the benefit of the Linnæan monument fund. "Eterneller och Vårblommor," a collection of standard religious and patriotic poems from Swedish literature.

Enander has, besides, contributed to newspapers and literary annuals in Sweden and the United States, among which may be mentioned the annuals *Vintersol*, in Sweden, and *Prärieblomman* in this country.

Dr. Enander is a member, active or honorary, of several civic, historical and literary societies.

At 55 Oak place in Lake View, Dr. Enander and his family have resided for many years back. His marriage took place June 22, 1873, at Paxton, Ill., Mrs. Enander, whose maiden name was Melinda Lawson, is the daughter of one of the earliest Swedish settlers in the West. There are three grown children, the daughters Ada Elvira Angelika and Hilma Louise Alfhild, and the son, Johan Einar Hilding.

CARL T. STRANDBERG

belongs to the well-known Swedish family of this name. Mr.



CARL THORSTEN STRANDBERG

Strandberg was born Jan. 22, 1861, at Tomta, Hallsberg parish, Nerike, Sweden. After having completed his education in Sweden, he went to America, arriving in the month of June, 1888. He soon obtained a position as bookkeeper on the Board of Trade in Chicago. In 1890 he accepted a position as chief clerk with the large transportation firm of Peter McDonnell & Co., in their Chicago offices and remained with this firm for more than seven years. In 1898, Mr. Strandberg was appointed business manager of the well-known newspaper *Gamla och Nya Hemlandet*, and later was elected its treasurer.

Mr. Strandberg is also an officer

and director in the Scandia Loan and Investment Association, and holds positions of trust in several other enterprises.

In 1889, Mr. Strandberg was joined in matrimony with Miss Ellen Victoria Pedro, who was for many years private secretary to the renowned Swedish novelist, Emilie Flygare-Carlén. Mr. and Mrs. Strandberg have one child, a daughter, Elsa Victoria. The family residence is at 1227 North Shore ave., Rogers Park.

ANNA C. FREID

was born March 20, 1848, at Pelarne, Småland, Sweden. Her



ANNA CHARLOTTA FREID

parents, Johan Magnus Freid och Anna Helena, née Peterson, emigrated to this country in 1857 and settled on a farm in Andover, Ill., where they died in 1891.

The daughter was confirmed by the pioneer, Rev. Jonas Swensson, and later became a professional nurse. In 1884 she was called to the newly established Augustana Hospital in Chicago as head nurse and matron of the institution, retaining both positions until she resigned in 1896.

Miss Freid made a tour of England, France, Germany, Sweden, Finland and Norway in 1896 and and again in 1898, studying hospitals and deaconess institutions. She was one of the leading figures in the establishment of the Immanuel Woman's Home Association at 577½ La Salle ave. and is the president and treasurer of its board of trustees. Its object is to provide a home under Christian influences for such young women as are temporarily out of work and also for those who have no other home. It will also be a social gathering place for such members as are employed but do not live there. The home was opened Sept. 7, 1907.

Miss Freid is a member of the Immanuel Swedish Luth. Church since 1886 and is a life member of the Immanuel Deaconess Institute at Omaha, Neb. She spends her summers at Pistakee Bay, McHenry co., Ill., where she has a summer cottage.

JOHN A. SANDGREN,

high secretary of the Independent Order of Svithiod, was born at Mortorp, Småland, April 10, 1871.

His father, C. A. Sandgren, is a leather manufacturer and a man of consequence in the community, now holding the office of postmaster at Mortorp where he

resides. He is also the owner of a beautiful farm at Kulltorp. There were ten children in the family,



JOHN ALBERT SANDGREN

five of whom survive. The elder Sandgren aimed to give his children a fair education, and the son John, after attending common school and enjoying private instruction, was given a course first at a business college in Kalmar, then at an agricultural school at Applerum, where he studied only the theoretical branches. His education finished, John Sandgren held a situation as a bookkeeper on Baron Stjernstedts large estate at Lökene, Vermland, until 1891, when he came over to the United States. Here the newcomer during the first year worked at whatever he could find to do. He was at Sheffield, Pa., Jamestown and Buffalo, N. Y., and elsewhere, stopping a short time in each place. In the fall of 1892 he came on to Chicago and soon obtained a clerical position with the Chicago Title and Trust Company and remained with this firm for eight years. In 1902 he was elected high secretary of the Independent Order of Svithiod and is still in charge of the headquarters of that order at 525 Reaper block.

Besides holding membership in the Verdandi Lodge of said order, Mr. Sandgren belongs to the King Oscar Lodge of the Masonic Order. He is also the treasurer of the Swedish Societies Central Association, a charitable organization maintaining the Swedish Old Peoples' Home at Park Ridge, Illinois.

Mr. Sandgren was married Jan. 11, 1899, to Miss Thekla C. Bogren of Chicago. They live in a home of their own at 3361 North Ashland ave.

LARS JOHNSON

was born Dec. 22, 1853, in Hasselstad, Ronneby parish, Blekinge, Sweden, where he was educated in the public, grammar and high schools. Attracted by the greater chances offered in the New World, he came over to this country in September, 1879. For the last eighteen years Mr. Johnson has been engaged in the business of buying and selling of western and southern lands. His office is at room 1023, Chamber of Commerce Building, Chicago.

Mr. Johnson was married in

1889 to Hilma L. Carlson. They have a daughter, Myrtle, now about fifteen years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are members of the Swedish Lutheran Church.

ROBERT ANDERSON

was born Dec. 11, 1870, in Gustaf Adolf parish, Vestergötland,



ROBERT ANDERSON

Sweden. His early education was obtained in the public schools in Sweden. He learned the painter's trade in Jönköping. In 1887 he emigrated and came directly to Chicago. He worked at his trade during the day, and at night attended the night school. After three years of intense application he began his own business. In 1895 he formed a partnership with E. Osterholm with the firm name of Anderson and Osterholm. The business started with five men and a business of about $5,000 a year. It now requires 75 men and the volume of the business is more than $100,000 a year. The firm was incorporated in 1902 as the Anderson and Osterholm Co. Paint stores are maintained at 1202 W. 59th st. and 3200 N. Clark st.

Mr. Anderson has been a trustee of the Swedish Mission Church in Englewood for the past sixteen years, and its Sunday school superintendent for many years. He is a member of the board of directors of Englewood Hospital and many other organizations.

In 1890 Mr. Anderson entered the matrimonial state with Miss Selma Holtzen of Chicago. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson have a pleasant home and are blessed with two children, Sigurd, aged fifteen and Alice, aged five years.

GUSTAVE JACOBSON

was born Oct. 13, 1873, at Grangesberg, Dalarne, Sweden. Emigrating in 1884 with his parents, he went to Chicago. After attending the public school he started in the printing trade at the Engberg-Holmberg Publishing Co.'s. office in 1887. Since then he has worked in various places, among them *Fosterlandet* and *Svenska Tribunen* offices. Since 1903 he has conducted a linotype office. He also has charge of the *Hemlandet* printing department.

Mr. Jacobson is a member of Verdandi Lodge No. 3, I. O. S., the N. S. B. A. and of the Swedish Typographical Union No. 247.

He was married June 25, 1896, to Beda Dorothea Swanson, born Feb. 5, 1873, at Nås, Dalarne,



GUSTAVE JACOBSON

Sweden. Their children are Mabel D., Roswell G., Clifford A. and Vivian S. Jacobson. The family resides at 927 Devon ave., Edgewater.

EMIL SHERMAN

was born Feb. 12, 1865, in Stora Forssa, Hammar parish, Nerike, Sweden. His early education was obtained in the Swedish public school. In 1881 he emigrated, arriving in America in July. The young man here went to work in a meat market, and finally became the proprietor of a market at 75 Sedgwick st. In 1907 he opened a restaurant next door to his meat market.

Mr. Sherman not only has pronounced musical tastes but is also gifted with a talent for composition, having written several pieces for the piano. Two of these have been published, bearing the titles, "Peace and Prosperity to All Nations," a march, and "Uncle the Great," a march and two-step.

A novel piece of furniture called the rocking modore has been patented by Mr. Sherman in the United States, Canada and several European countries. It is a rocking footrest on which the feet are elevated on a level with the body and which swings with each motion of the occupant of a rocking chair.

Mr. Sherman was married Nov. 21, 1885, to Clara Johanson, born



EMIL SHERMAN

in Varola parish, Vestergötland. Their children are Ella Victoria, born Nov. 5, 1886 and Gustaf William, born July 4, 1888.

AXEL W. AKESSON

was born in Lund, Sweden, March 22, 1872. He was educated in the Lund Cathedral School, and

then, having obtained a stipend for five years from the Royal College of Commerce, went to Berlin,



AXEL WICTOR AKESSON

where he attended a technical school, thereupon going to Vienna, Zürich, Paris and London to various schools.

Returning to Stockholm, Mr. Akesson took a thorough course at the Kjellberg Institute. He went to Chicago in 1891, and is now the proprietor of the Kellberg Institute for massage and medical gymnastics at 1107 Champlain Building.

Mr. Akesson is a member of King Oscar Lodge of Free Masons, the Oriental Consistory, the Mystic Shrine, the First Swedish Lodge of Odd Fellows, the Swedish Glee Club and the Svithiod Singing Club.

On Jan. 17, 1902, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Akesson to Anna Grönquist, who is his able assistant.

GUSTAF HOLMQUIST

was born in the Swedish city of Nora, Vestmanland, Feb. 14, 1872, and was reared there until thirteen years of age, when the family emigrated to Minneapolis, Minn. The same year, 1885, the young man joined a mixed choir as alto singer, but his musical training did not begin until he reached the age of twenty-one. Then he became a pupil of A. W. Porter of Minneapolis, continuing under his instruction for four years, or until 1897, when Mr. Holmquist interrupted his studies for a year by going to Alaska as the superintendent of a gang of road builders. Returning in 1898, he resumed



GUSTAF HOLMQUIST

his musical studies and two years later came to Chicago. Here he placed himself under the direction of W. N. Burritt and W. L. Hubbard, who have taken pride in the training and further develop-

ment of Mr. Holmquist's excellent voice.

While in Minneapolis, Mr. Holmquist was one of the prominent soloists of that city, singing in the Westminster, the Presbyterian and other large churches. Since coming to Chicago, he has been a member of the splendid quartet of the Plymouth Church for seven years.

Gustaf Holmquist, within the last few years has made for himself an enviable place among the ablest bassos of the United States. Possessing a voice of exceptionally rich, sympathetic quality, of great power and of wide range, he is peculiarly fitted for every kind of public concert work from oratorio and festival performances to song recitals and private musicales.

During the season of 1901 he was one of the soloists selected for the Chautauqua Assembly concerts.

Mr. Holmquist has been twice engaged as soloist for the singing festivals of the American Union of Swedish Singers, namely at Jamestown in 1901 and at Chicago in 1905. He was soloist at the festivals of the Eastern division of the above organization at Boston in 1903 and Providence in 1907, and at the Western division's festival in Moline 1907. The United Norwegian Singers of America chose him as soloist at their festivals in Sioux Falls in 1902 and at La Crosse in 1905.

In 1903 he received the flattering offer to go to the St. Louis Exposition as baritone soloist of the Evanston Musical Club. There he sang in an oratorio, the excellent rendition of which brought the club a competitive prize of $3,500.

The Apollo Club of Chicago chose him as bass soloist in "Messiah" and in Gabriel Pierne's "The Children's Crusade."

His successes with the leading choral societies of the country, as the bass soloist in Handel's "Messiah," "The Creation" of Haydn, Mendelssohn's "Elijah" and "St. Paul," Gounod's "Redemption" and kindred works prove him an oratorio singer par excellence.

His song recitals have been the subject of most enthusiastic approval, his interpretation of the standard German and English songs winning him only highest commendation and his authoritative rendition of the Swedish folk- and art-songs lending peculiar interest and novelty to his programs.

May 23, 1893, Mr. Holmquist was married to Miss Olivia Ogren at Minneapolis.

JOHN A. WESTERLUND

was born June 10, 1865, near Orion, Ill., and is the son of Peter Westerlund, one of the earliest Swedish settlers in Henry county. Until he was eighteen years of age he worked on his father's farm. Being desirous of a higher education he attended Bethany College at Lindsborg, Kans., for six years and was graduated in 1891, in the classical course, with the degree of A. B., being a member of the first class sent out from

the institution. In the same year he went to Chicago, engaging in the real estate and insurance bus-



JOHN A. WESTERLUND

iness. He also identified himself with the colonization and immigration business in the South and West. With the exception of five years spent in the South, he has been making Chicago his home.

Since 1902 he has operated extensively in Oregon and Washington and in western Nebraska acting as special traveling immigration agent for the Union Pacific R. R. and as state commissioner of immigration of Oregon by appointment of Governor Chamberlain. In 1903 he founded and organized the Western Oregon Orchard Company, which now is one of the largest fruit growing concerns of its kind on the Pacific coast.

Mr. Westerlund has traveled extensively, having visited every state in the Union, and in 1897 made a tour through England, Germany and the three Scandinavian countries.

Feb. 23, 1898, Mr. Westerlund was married to Miss Ella Cornelia Holmberg, adopted daughter of the late C. P. Holmberg, the veteran Chicago publisher. Mr. and Mrs. Westerlund reside in Sheridan Park, and are members of the Lutheran Church. They are both active in the church, Mr. Westerlund serving as trustee.

JOHAN A. LINDEBORG

was born Feb. 6, 1835, in Kråkshult, Småland, Sweden. His father, Johan Peter Olofson, a farmer, was born in 1804 and died



JOHAN A. LINDEBORG

in 1890. His mother, Sara Lisa Svensdotter from Rumskulla, died in 1860, aged fifty years. In his early days he was occupied in farming and various mechanical pursuits. He studied four terms at the elementary school in Ahlsborg in

1862–63. Subsequently he was engaged as assistant teacher in Rev. B. G. Glasell's institute for the deaf and dumb and the blind at Nya Varfvet in Göteborg. In 1867 Mr. Lindeborg left this position to emigrate, and first located in La Porte and South Bend, Ind. where he was employed as a cabinetmaker in the Singer Sewing Machine Co.'s factory. He was next employed in the Pullman shops, and worked for various periods of time at fine interior finishing in Chicago.

Mr. Lindeborg was engaged as a salesman in the book store of Enander & Bohman for six years and in that of the Engberg-Holmberg Publishing Co. for two years.

Mr. Lindeborg has been active in politics, served repeatedly as election clerk and was once a delegate to the county convention. He has been an unswerving Republican since he acquired American citizenship, and has taken part by discussion and vote in every campaign since 1868.

He is a member of the Immanuel Swedish Lutheran Church of Chicago. He served as secretary for ten years, taught in the Bible classes of the Sunday school for twelve years, and as a member of the Immanuel Society served as secretary for a number of years and frequently took part in its literary programs.

At present he is engaged in the H. M. Cable piano works at La Porte, Ind.

He was married to Karolina Josefina Widerström. Their one daughter, Alida, is Mrs. V. O. Peterson of Rock Island.

SVEN JOHAN SEBELIUS,

minister of the Swedish Lutheran Augustana Synod, is the son of



SVEN JOHAN SEBELIUS

Sebelius Anderson, a carpenter of Tvåaker, Halland, Sweden, where he was born April 4, 1874. The family left the old country in 1879, stopping in Pennsylvania, where they resided at Clermont, McIntire and Peale, and finally settled at Du Bois. In the public schools the son obtained his fundamental education and after that entered Augustana College. From that institution he graduated in 1901 with the degree of A. B. and from Augustana Theological Seminary three years later as a Bachelor of Divinity. While at college Mr. Sebelius was an earnest student of the literature of the

mother country and was one of the organizers of the Swedish Society of Belles Lettres, becoming one of the five charter members and serving one term as its president.

Since his ordination in 1904, Rev. Mr. Sebelius has been in charge of the Siloa Swedish Lutheran Church at Blue Island, one of the suburbs of Chicago. He is a member of the Swedish Lutheran Ministerial Association of Chicago.

The Rev. Mr. Sebelius was married Sept. 25, 1907, to Miss Emily Anderson of Portland, Conn.

MARIE SWANSON

was born Aug. 31, 1875, in Härlöf, Kristianstad, Sweden. Her



MARIE SWANSON

father is Sven Johanson, now a resident of Chicago. She came to this country in 1892. Having received her fundamental education in her native land, Miss Swanson came to this city, where she attended Harvey Medical College for three years. Later on she attended the American Medical College in St. Louis, Mo., graduating therefrom April 21, 1903. The state medical examinations in both Missouri and Illinois have been successfully passed by her.

Dr. Swanson is a member of the Knights and Ladies of Security, Independent Order of Foresters and of the Royal Neighbors of America. She is medical examiner of Harmony Council No. 928 of K. & L. of S., of Companion Court New Monitor No. 427 I. O. F. and of Ravenswood Camp No. 3053 R. N. of A.

JOHN E. MOHLIN

was born Jan. 18, 1863, in Kalmar, Sweden. His early training



JOHN EDVARD MOHLIN

he received in a business college of his home city. In 1886 he emigrated to America and went

immediately to Chicago, which place has since been his home.

After the lapse of a few years he began business as a mason contractor together with John Woodstrom. This business was incorporated in 1898 as the Lake View Building Company.

Mr. Mohlin is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Ravenswood.

EUGENE L. SWENSON,

son of Carl Swenson, a wholesale fish dealer, was born March 12,



EUGENE L. SWENSON

1879, in Chicago. After graduating from the Franklin School, he attended the English High and Manual Training School and the Chicago Athenæum.

Having gained a general business experience during the past few years, Mr. Swenson in 1905 organized Swenson's Land Agency, with office at 171 La Salle st., for the purpose of attracting Swedish colonists to Bovina, Texas, a new settlement in the northwestern part of that state. Farmers in the northern states are finding that they can sell their farms and obtain with the proceeds from five to ten times as much equally fertile land in Texas as they originally owned. Mr. Swenson is the owner of Swenson's Hotel in Bovina.

He is a member of the Immanuel Swedish Lutheran Church of Chicago.

In June, 1906, he was united in marriage to Miss Torell, daughter of Rev. J. Torell of Swedesburg, Neb.

A. P. MARTIN,

Swedish Lutheran minister, was born Nov. 17, 1858, in Gud-



A. P. MARTIN

mundtorp parish, Skåne, Sweden. When but a child of eight he was deprived of a home through the sudden death of his father. At

twelve he came to America, and after due preparation entered Augustana College and Theological Seminary, was ordained pastor of the Augustana Synod in Minneapolis June 27, 1886, and entered the service of the church at Sioux City, Iowa.

During the summer of 1900 he visited Sweden, Norway, Denmark and England. In the same year he accepted a call as a Lutheran missionary in Utah. After laboring in this field for five years, he served for three years as pastor of the church at Eureka, Cal. While there he acted as secretary of the California Conference.

In the fall of 1898 Rev. Martin removed to Blue Island, Ill., as pastor of the Siloa Church. In 1904 he accepted a call to Stratford, Ia. Since September, 1907, he is stationed at Sharon Springs, Kansas.

Oct. 10, 1894, Rev. Martin was married to Miss Ella Theresia Wahlquist. Their children are: Daniel Theophilus, Helga Naomi and Philemon Jonathan.

FRANK ROSBERG

was born Sept. 29, 1854, in Småland, Sweden. With his parents he emigrated to the United States in 1856 and settled in Chicago. Frank attended the old Kinzie School on the north side. He then obtained employment in the printing trade, and has been a cylinder pressman for over thirty years, having had a press room for more than fifteen years.

Mr. Rosberg is married, his wife being Mattie Surrean, a native of Sweden. They have two sons and two daughters, and live in



FRANK ROSBERG

their own residence at 5251 Artesian ave.

FRED J. NELSON

was born July 16, 1866, in Östra Ny parish, Sweden. Since his arrival to this country in 1877 he has resided in Florence, Wis., Iron Mountain, Mich., and Chicago. The parents are Nils J. Nilson, a merchant in Brunnby, and his wife, Carolina.

Mr. Nelson was for four years employed as a switchman on the Northwestern Railroad, later going into business as a coal dealer and furniture mover in partnership with Mr. Westerberg. Their office is at 3569 N. Clark st.

For many years Mr. Nelson has been closely identified with church work. He is a member of the Ebenezer Swedish Luth. Church.

and has faithfully served as a deacon, Sunday school teacher and treasurer of the church.



FRED J. NELSON

His marriage to Miss Augusta Emelia Nelson has been blessed with three children, Signe, Harry and Judith.

ROBERT LINDBLOM,

for thirty years one of the foremost Swedish-American citizens of Chicago, was born in Asker parish, Nerike, Sweden, Nov. 17, 1844. He received his fundamental education in a school at Högsjö, Södermanland, and for a time was in the service of the government survey. Prior to his emigration to America, Mr. Lindblom had taken a course in a commercial school and had learned the rudiments of banking at Örebro, so that when he came here in 1864, he already possessed a fair knowledge of business principles. The following year we find Lindblom in Milwaukee, as an employee in the grain, packing and elevator business of the firm of L. H. Higby & Co., with whom he advanced to the position of cashier. In 1873 he established himself in the grain and commission business on his own account.

Four years later he removed to Chicago, where he was a successful operator on the Board of Trade for many years. Lindblom was a veteran of many notable deals in grain. During the period of 1880 to 1883, when speculation was at its height, there were few operators who could match him in shrewd trading, and he frequently bought and sold blocks of half a



ROBERT LINDBLOM

million bushels of wheat and corn at a time. As indicated by his huge financial operations, Lindblom at this time was a man of wealth, but his fortune is said to have been shattered in the famous Leiter "May corner" a decade

ago. He was a member of the principal commercial organizations in the country, viz., the Milwaukee and Minneapolis Chambers of Commerce, New York Consolidated Stock Exchange, New York Produce Exchange, Pittsburg Stock Exchange and St. Louis Merchants' Exchange, besides the Chicago Board of Trade and Chicago Stock Exchange.

About eighteen years ago Lindblom became closely connected with the "farmers' movement" and contributed by speech and pen in the effort to bring about a reform in the system of handling farm products. He was from that time on a constant advocate of the abolition of option trading on boards of trade, favoring trading in actual grain instead.

Lindblom affiliated chiefly with the Democratic party, but on occasion gave his support to the Socialists, without, however, parading his friendship for the labor element as a device for attaining political preferment. In 1893 he was appointed a member of the Board of Education, and was chairman of its finance committee from then until 1896. In 1898 Mayor Harrison prevailed upon him to become a member of the Civil Service Commission of Chicago, and Mr. Lindblom served as president of that body for four years, until July, 1902. During the period of 1893 to 1897 he was a member of Governor John P. Altgeld's staff, with the honorary title of Colonel.

We find Lindblom among the original promoters of the World's Columbian Exposition. He became one of its thirty-six directors, and as chairman of the committee on promotion wrote the first appeal to the people of the Mississippi Valley. While in Washington before the Senate, he was one of five men to subscribe the half million dollars then lacking to complete Chicago's pledge of ten million dollars. Mr. Lindblom served, besides, as acting commissioner of the Swedish exhibit until the arrival of Arthur Leffler, the regular commissioner. For his services to Sweden in that capacity and otherwise in connection with the World's Fair, he was decorated by King Oscar with the Order of Vasa.

In the early nineties Lindblom launched in the publishing business with a daily newspaper, the Chicago *Press*. The enterprise, however, did not carry itself, and the paper suspended publication after a brief existence. In collaboration with Ira C. Emery, Lindblom wrote a book, entitled "Unrest," a sociological novel, in which his virile pen deals ingeniously with a number of political and social problems. He was a more forcible than fluent public speaker, who, forced to the front by his personal prominence in the community, often appeared before his fellow countrymen on public occasions.

He was a member of the Union League Club and the Swedish Glee Club and of a number of other organizations in this city

and elsewhere. Of the Glee Club he was an active promoter and served repeatedly as its president, holding that distinction at the time of his death. In him not only this singing aggregation but the united Swedish-American male choruses had one of their best friends and patrons. He will be remembered as the one who donated a championship banner, valued at $500, for the Scandinavian singers' festival, held at Minneapolis in 1891.

In 1874 Mr. Lindblom was married at Milwaukee, to Miss Hattie Lewis of that city, who died in 1895. To them were born two daughters, Lenore and Vesta, the latter married to Clas Ake Mauritz Pauli, a lieutenant of the Royal Dragoons of Skåne, and residing at Ystad, Sweden.

Robert Lindblom passed away Feb. 15, 1907, at the age of sixty-two years. He owned a handsome residence at 678 La Salle ave. facing Lincoln Park, and left an estate valued at $15,000, a mere remnant of his former fortune.

ERIK ROSÉN,

who for the past fourteen years has been in charge of the Swedish Baptist Church of Englewood, was engaged in evangelistic work in Sweden for a long period before coming to the United States and is mentioned among the foremost workers in the Baptist Church in the old country. He was born at Myssjö, Jämtland, Sweden, Nov. 8, 1843, and had a Christian bringing up at home. At the age of sixteen he entered the people's school at Myssjö, and two years later went into the forests to earn his living as a lumberer.



ERIK ROSÉN

During a revival at Myssjö in 1864 Rosén became the first convert to Baptism in that locality. The following spring he went to Sundsvall and became the assistant to Olof Engberg in colportage and mission work. This work he continued, traveling in the northern provinces. Having participated in a course of instruction in a Bible school at Kullstaberg, he preached his first sermon at Sonna, Medelpad. He traveled afoot as an unsalaried missionary and made his way by the sale of books and tracts. The following summer he took another course at a Bible school in Sundsvall and in 1866 entered the school conducted by Gustaf Palmquist in Stockholm.

At the suggestion of Rev. A.

Wiberg, Rosén in 1870 made a missionary trip to Finland. Having preached for a month in Jakobstad, he was arrested, confronted with the rector of the parish and forbidden to continue preaching. Disregarding the order, he continued his labors until one day a mob threatened his life, when he left for Vasa and preached there for a season.

In the fall of 1870 Rosén entered the Bethel Seminary in Stockholm. After two years' study he was called to Gefle, where the Baptist church had been almost annihilated on account of the burning of the city in 1870. He collected the remnants of the church and opened missions in the neighboring parishes, also extending his labors to the adjacent provinces.

In 1882 Rev. Rosén removed to Falun, where he had aided in organizing a church, and labored as its pastor for six years. The next five years he preached at Hudiksvall. Through his efforts the Gefle and Falun District Conference was formed.

Emigrating to America in 1892, Rev. Rosén took charge of the church in McKeesport, Pa., for a short period. The following year he accepted a call to Chicago, where he has given the Englewood church excellent pastoral service up to the end of the year 1907, when he left this charge to reenter the service of the Baptist Church in the mother country, where he is known among his brethren as "the apostle of Norrland," owing to his efficient pioneer work in that region.

Mr. Rosén was married in Gefle Dec. 16, 1876, to Helena Hammarberg, who passed away in Hudiksvall Jan. 9, 1889. There were in this marriage three sons, of whom one, Edward Daniel, now 25 years old, is still living. Sept. 12, 1901, he married Maria E. Modig, with whom he has three sons, of whom two died. Theodor Emanuel is still living, 4 years old.

ALFRED STROMBERG,

inventor, was born in Stockholm, Sweden, March 9, 1861. His



ALFRED STROMBERG

early life was spent in the vicinity of that city. In 1876 he began work in the electrical field and in 1879–80 had charge of a large part of the work of installing the telephone exchange in Stockholm. Later he had charge of the construction and the installation of a large number of exchanges

throughout the Scandinavian peninsula and Denmark.

In 1885 Mr. Stromberg having left Sweden for the New World, entered the employ of the Bell Telephone Co., in Chicago. He remained in the instrument and construction departments of this company until 1890, during which time he made a number of inventions, some of which are still used by the Bell Company. Mr. Stromberg then took charge of the practical work of the Chicago Electric Protective Co.'s Burglar Alarm System. While in this position he made a number of improvements and inventions, and the company is now operating under what is known as the "Stromberg system."

When the fundamental telephone patents expired in 1894, Mr. Stromberg entered the independent telephone field with Androv Carlson, incorporating in 1895 as the Stromberg-Carlson Telephone Mfg. Co. By 1901, they had a force of 1,200 men and the business transacted a month amounted to $200,000.

In 1903 the establishment was consolidated with several large eastern companies, the firm now having $20,000,000 capital and employing 2,500 men. Mr. Stromberg has retired from the firm and is now president of the Goldberg Motor Car Devices Mfg. Co. at 1253 Michigan ave. His old partner Androv Carlson is still associated with him.

In 1886 Mr. Stromberg was married to Miss Ella Johnson, also a native of Stockholm. They have one son and three daughters. The family residence is at 2305 Sheridan Road.

OLOF VALLEY,

the well-known basso, was born Sept. 27, 1868 in Ljusne, Helsingland, where his father was for over 40 years foreman of a saw mill. The son came to this country in 1887 and located in Chicago, where he followed the trade of a machinist.



OLOF VALLEY

Joining the Swedish Glee Club, he contributed not a little to its superb singing. Mr. Valley went with the chorus on the trip to Sweden in 1897. He studied the voice with prominent teachers in Chicago. He appeared in numerous concerts as bass soloist and had several appointments in church quartets. Entering the Chicago Conservatory of Music he was graduated in 1902.

In 1904 Mr. Valley accepted a call as director of music at the Kansas State Agricultural College at Manhattan, Kansas. Prof. Valley is at the head of the music department and is director of the college chorus. In the summer of 1907 he toured the states with an organization called "The Olof Valley Company" and met with fine success.

Prof. Valley is a man of fine physique and has a splendid bass voice of wide range.

He was united in marriage on May 2, 1896 with Anna Östbom, daughter of Lieut. N. F. G. Östbom of the Royal Svea Artillery Regiment. A son, Norman, was born to them July 26, 1898.

EMIL AND ERIC WERNER.

The elder brother, Emil Werner, was born at Snaflunda parish,



ERIC A. WERNER

Nerike, June 29, 1862. After attending school for some time at Askersund, he emigrated in 1887 direct to Chicago. Mr. Werner was married on June 29, 1902, to Miss Cecilia Carlson of Chicago. A son, Nels, was born to them.

Eric Werner was born at Snaflunda, Dec. 21, 1872. He studied at the Carolinian Institute at



EMIL WERNER

Örebro until 1887 when he emigrated to America together with his brother. In 1892 the two brothers engaged in the expressing, storage and coal business under the firm name of Werner Bros. The beginning was modest but with time the business has grown to be the largest of its kind on the north side. The firm has one large storage warehouse at 18–24 Evanston ave., another one at 266–272 Lincoln ave., a third at 1968–70 Evanston ave., Sheridan Park. The firm employs 150 men, has 20 moving vans, a large number of express and heavy truck wagons, and 125 horses.

They have over 500 fire proof rooms for the storage of furniture, household goods and works of art.

Emil Werner died April 19, 1906, so that now the management devolves upon the younger brother.

Mr. Eric Werner has twice visited his old home in Sweden. He also traveled through other European countries.

Jan. 13, 1904, he was married to Miss Ellen Nelson, born in Copenhagen, of Danish parents, June 4, 1884, the wedding being celebrated with splendid festivities at the club house of the Swedish Glee Club, of which Mr. Werner is a member. Mr. and Mrs. Werner have a daughter named Vivian.

ANDERS FRICK,

doctor of medicine, was born in the city of Malmö, Sweden, Jan. 12, 1868. He attended the Malmö collegiate school and later, the University of Lund. After graduating in September, 1896, from the renowned Carolinian Medico-Surgical Institute in Stockholm, he came to the United States in the following December.

Dr. Frick is a successful practitioner enjoying high standing among Chicago's medical profession. He was associate to the chair of Therapeutics at Rush Medical College 1901–1905 and is a member of the staff of Augustana Hospital since November, 1903, and is assistant chief of its medical department.

Dr. Frick is a member of the Illinois State Medical Society, the Chicago Medical Society, the American Medical Association, the



ANDERS FRICK

Scandinavian Medical Society of Chicago, the German Medical Society of Chicago, the Swedish Medical Society of Stockholm and of the Swedish Glee Club.

FRITHIOF V. HEDEEN

was born Dec. 9, 1875, in Stockholm. In his home city he attended the North Latin School, his studies there forming a good foundation for his future work in America. In 1891 he emigrated and several years later became interested in religious work. After serving the Swedish Baptist Church in Altona, Ill., he entered the Swedish Theological Seminary of the University of Chicago. In the summer of 1900 he served the church in Brunswick, Minn., and

in 1901 had a call to become pastor at Evanston. During this same year he was ordained and two



FRITHIOF V. HEDEEN

years later graduated from the University of Chicago.

Rev. Hedeen has done splendid work in the Swedish Baptist church in Evanston. There has been progress both spiritually and financially during his pastorate, a large part of the church debt having been paid off and more than one hundred members added to the congregation.

He has served as vice-president of the Swedish Baptist Young People's Union of America. Mr. Frithiof Hedeen has recently left the ministry, and has now established himself as a jeweler at 1595 35th street.

In 1897 Mr. Hedeen was married to Miss Emma Olson, a union which has been blessed with two sons.

JOHN A. WALGREN

was born at Danville, Ill., Feb. 9, 1870. He was graduated from the elementary school in Oskarshamn with highest honors in 1884; from the Minneapolis high school in 1889, and from the Minnesota State University College of Law in 1891, whereupon he entered the law offices of Hon. John P. Rea and Eli Torrance. He engaged in the practice of law, being admitted to the Supreme Courts of Minnesota and Illinois.

In the campaign of 1900, Mr. Walgren toured Nebraska as speaker for the National Republican Committee the members of which in a letter to him highly commended his work "on the firing line."

He has devoted some of his time to literature and occult studies, being the author and publisher of the periodical, *Golden Youth*.

Mr. Walgren is the founder of the Prentice Mulford Club in the Auditorium Building, and is manager at 5507 Indiana ave.

CHARLES L. SWANSON,

born Oct. 31, 1870, is a native Chicagoan. With a foundation laid in the public schools, he acquired a legal education at the Law School of the Lake Forest University, and, upon being admitted to practice, established a law office. At present, Mr. Swanson holds the position of assistant trial attorney in the City Attorney's office.

Mr. Swanson is identified with a number of orders and fraternal societies. He is commander of the Norden Tent; chaplain of the John C. Fremont Council, National Union; president of the Lincoln Singing Club; member of the K. O. L. M., and of the 26th Ward Republican Club.

Jan. 9, 1895, Mr. Swanson was married to Miss Millie Hegberg.

CHARLES S. PETERSON,

proprietor of the Peterson Linotype Company, and silent partner



CHARLES S. PETERSON

in the Regan Printing Company, was born at Daglösen, Vermland, Sweden, Aug. 29, 1873. At the age of fourteen he came to Chicago, where he was first employed on the Swedish weekly newspaper, *Hemlandet*. In 1888 he went west, stayed in Colorado for some time and then proceeded to California. Subsequently he made a trip to the Sandwich Islands, returning to California after two years. In 1895 he came back to Chicago and became linotype operator for the weekly *Svenska Amerikanaren*, continuing in that position until 1899, which year he organized the Peterson Linotype Company, at present the largest concern of its kind in Chicago.

In 1901 Mr. Peterson was united in marriage to Miss Thyra Hjertquist, daughter of Gabriel Hjertquist, the veteran foreman of the typographical department of *Svenska Amerikanaren*.

ANDERS HESSEL,

grand secretary of the Independent Order of Vikings, was born Jan. 22, 1872. His father, Edward Hessel, who was a sailor, died in 1904. After obtaining an



ANDERS HESSEL

education in a public academy and a manual training school in Sweden, Mr. Hessel emigrated to the United States in 1890 and lo-

cated in Chicago the following year.

After coming to this country he supplemented his education by a course in a business college. For twelve years he was in the employ of Marshall Field & Company, as salesman in the wholesale upholstery department.

He is a member of Brage Lodge No. 2 of the Independent Order of Vikings, and was elected secretary of the Grand Lodge of the Order in 1905. Mr. Hessel also belongs to the Orpheus Singing Club.

ANDROV CARLSON

was born May 9, 1854, on the Tommared estate, Karl Gustaf



ANDROV CARLSON

parish, Vestergötland. His parents, Carl and Anna Britta Johanson, were farmer folk who died on the old estate. The son emigrated in 1880, landing at Philadelphia and proceeded to Chicago. Becoming restless, he spent three years in various parts of the country, but finally returned to Chicago, where he has since resided. Mr. Carlson obtained employment at the Deering Harvester Works and later with various electrical appliance companies, such as the Chicago Telephone Company.

In company with Alfred Stromberg he formed the Stromberg-Carlson Telephone Company, which was incorporated in 1895. In June, 1901, the firm purchased the seven story factory building located at the corner of Jackson and Clinton streets, which, together with the adjoining four story building which had been previously acquired, gave them superior facilities for meeting the increasing demand for their products. The firm employed 1,200 men and had a business of over $200,000 a month. In 1903 the business was consolidated with several eastern concerns. In 1906 the company had increased its capital to $20,000,000 and now employs 2,500 men, truly a marvelous growth from a small beginning.

Mr. Carlson has retired from the telephone business and is now treasurer of the Goldberg Motor Car Devices Mfg. Co. at 1253 Michigan ave. and is still associated with his old partner, Alfred Stromberg.

Mr. Carlson was in 1880 married to Christine Hillstrom, with whom he has had eight children, of which three boys and two girls are still living. The family re-

sides in an elegant home at 2693 Sheridan Road.

PETRUS SWARTZ,

clergyman of the Swedish Baptist Church, was born April 13, 1860,



PETRUS SWARTZ

in Ousby parish, Skåne, Sweden. At sixteen years of age he joined the Göta Life Guards, passed the subaltern officer's examination with the highest honors and resigned from the regiment in 1882. While in the military service he became a member of the First Baptist Church of Stockholm.

Desirous of serving the church as a preacher, he entered the Bethel Seminary at Stockholm, taking a course of theological instruction there until 1885, when he left for the United States.

Coming to Chicago, he was in charge of the Englewood church and of the Fourth Swedish Baptist Church for a time and then continued his divinity studies at the Morgan Park seminary, graduating in 1889. He now served the churches in Rockford, Ill., and Omaha, Neb., before returning to Chicago as pastor of the Lake View church in 1898. In 1907 Rev. Mr. Swartz assumed the pastorate of the Swedish Baptist Church in Kansas City, Mo.

In 1895 Rev. Swartz was elected secretary of the General Conference and in that capacity edited the yearbook of the Swedish Baptist churches for several years following. He also has served as chairman of the executive committee of the Illinois Conference and as a member of a committee to edit a new Swedish Baptist hymnal, published some years ago.

CARL GUSTAF NORMAN,

editor of *Svenska Tribunen-Nyheter*, was born Oct. 19, 1861, at Täf-



CARL GUSTAF NORMAN

velsås, Småland, Sweden. He worked for a time as assistant to

a surveyor before emigrating in 1879. The same year he entered Augustana College and pursued studies, with intervals, until 1890, when he was graduated from the theological seminary and ordained minister of the Augustana Synod. In 1882–83 he was instructor at Bethany College, Lindsborg, Kansas, and in 1887–88 edited *Framåt*, a weekly newspaper, published in that town.

Mr. Norman entered upon his ministerial career as pastor in Centerville, R. I., and Willimantic, Conn. After a year he assumed a charge in Providence, R. I., where he edited a weekly paper, *Framåt*, 1892–95, having resigned his pastorate. He subsequently resumed preaching as pastor of the Swedish Lutheran Church of Jersey City, but again exchanged the pulpit for the editorial chair in 1897 when he left the ministry and became editor of *Polstjernan*, a new journalistic enterprise in Brooklyn. He worked on different papers for a time and in 1899 became editor-in-chief of *Svea*, a weekly newspaper in Worcester, Mass. Mr. Norman left Worcester in 1906, and came to Chicago, assuming a corresponding position with *Svenska-Tribunen-Nyheter*.

Norman possesses a poetic talent above the average versifier. In the early '80s he began to write verse for the papers and has continued cultivating that form of literature to the present. Culled from the indifferent mass of his poetic productions, his best poems would make a meritorious collection.

WALFRID JOHNSON

was born in Sweden, March 22, 1874, and spent his boyhood days



WALFRID JOHNSON

on his father's farm in Rudskoga parish, Vermland. After finishing the course offered in the public school, he decided to train himself for a mercantile career. With a few dollars in his pocket, he set out for the nearest city. He entered the Karlskrona manual training school, from the mercantile department of which he graduated with honor in 1893. The same year he emigrated and at once settled in Chicago, where he has since resided. He secured a position in the wholesale department of Marshall Field and Co., where he was employed until ten years ago, when he accepted a position with the Stern Clothing Company. He left the service of

this house to join with the Lindsten Clothing Co., 1713 North Clark st., as a member of the firm.

Mr. Johnson belongs to the Free Masons, Odd Fellows, Foresters and the Vikings. He is also a member of the Messiah Lutheran Church, Lake View.

A. E. G. WINGÅRD,

one of the proprietors of the Swedish weekly *Svenska Amerikanaren*,



A. EDWIN G. WINGÅRD

was born Sept, 26, 1841, in Småland, Sweden, at Marieholms bruk, a large manufacturing establishment owned by his father, A. Wingård. In addition to a common school preparation, the son attended the Jönköping elementary school or college, which he left before completing the course to assume the duties of bookkeeper in his father's establishment. The year 1867 was one of great financial depression in Sweden, and emigration to the United States assumed unprecedented proportions. Young Wingård followed the westward current across the Atlantic and located in Princeton, Ill. He was employed in a dry goods store in that city for the next five years. In 1872 he came from Princeton to Chicago. Two years later he secured employment as a salesman in the Marshall Field retail establishment and remained with this house for eight years. His subsequent employment was that of advertising solicitor for *Svenska Amerikanaren*. In 1884 he purchased from Gabriel Hjertquist the stock in the newspaper, owned by him, and since 1888, when F. A. Lindstrand purchased the majority of the stock, the two have been joint proprietors and publishers.

Mr. Wingård is affiliated with no organizations other than the Swedish Glee Club.

Sept. 16, 1897, Mr. Wingård was married to Miss Olivia Swanson of Chicago. Mrs. Wingård is a native of St. Charles, Ill. The couple live comfortably at 1270 Sheridan road.

NILS A. NELSON,

president of the Scandia Life Insurance Company of Chicago and secretary of the Svea Loan and Building Ass'n, came to America in 1881 from Halland, Sweden. He was born in Hvalinge Jan. 15, 1860, his father being Borge Nilsson, who still lives on the old farm.

After about four years in this country, Mr. Nelson entered the Metropolitan Business College of



NILS A. NELSON

Chicago, where he spent fifteen months in preparing for commercial life. In the fall of 1886 he obtained a position with a large Board of Trade firm, where he continued for about ten years, most of the time having charge of the grain receiving department. In 1893 the Svea Building and Loan Association was organized and Mr. Nelson was elected president and in 1896 secretary of the association. Resigning his position with the Board of Trade firm, he has since made Svea one of the most solid financial institutions in Chicago. Mr. Nelson also deals in real estate, loans and insurance, and has been treasurer and is now president of Scandia Life Insurance Company, having been elected to the latter office in April, 1905. He was the virtual organizer of the Chicago Cemetery Association and has constantly served as its secretary.

While a thorough American at heart, Mr. Nelson takes pride in his origin and retains a warm love for the mother country. He is ever ready to further the interests of his fellow-countrymen, in business, in politics and in church affairs.

As a member of the Bethlehem Swedish Lutheran Church in Englewood, he has held a place on its board of deacons for ten years past, and served for three years as superintendent of the Sunday school.

His marriage to Adelia H. M. Olson, daughter of Herman Olson, dry goods merchant, took place April 30, 1895. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson's children are Byron Le Roy, born 1897, Norman A., born 1901, and Stanley Everett, born 1905.

G. EDWIN SANDSTEDT

was born April 17, 1876, at Gowrie, Webster co., Iowa, where his father was a farmer. Young Sandstedt attended the public schools of that state until he was fifteen years old. In the year 1892 he moved with the family to Kansas, where they engaged in farming and stock raising. He attended the public schools of that state and in 1899 came to Chicago.

Entering the Teachers' Review School, he graduated in the spring of 1900, and subsequently attended night school at the Harvey Medical College. In 1900 he took an

agency with the Prudential Life Insurance Company, was promoted to the position of assistant local



G. EDWIN SANDSTEDT

superintendent and remained with that company until 1902.

The last few years Mr. Sandstedt has devoted to the study of medicine, completing his course at the National Medical University in the spring of 1907. His office is at 1741 N. Clark st.

ALECK E. JOHNSON,

publisher of *Gamla och Nya Hemlandet*, was born July 29, 1840, in Karlskoga, Vermland, Sweden. He came to America in 1854 with his parents. The whole family became affected with the then prevalent cholera epidemic, and the father died soon after the train pulled into Chicago. The rest of the family were taken to the hospital and later assisted by an American family. Aleck had four years' schooling at Mt. Carroll Seminary in Mt. Carroll, Ill., and then began the battle of life.

About thirty years ago Mr. Johnson went to St. Paul in the capacity of commissioner of emigration for the St. Paul, Minneapolis & Manitoba Railway. In 1883 he organized the firm of A. E. Johnson & Co., land and immigration agents, at St. Paul. Since that time, the firm of A. E. Johnson Company has established headquarters at Chicago, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Seattle, Boston and New York City, Mr. Johnson remaining at the head of the firm. For the past fifteen years, Mr. Johnson has made New York his headquarters, where he is the general



ALECK E. JOHNSON

passenger agent for the Scandinavian-American Line.

His career as a publisher began in 1891, when Mr. Johnson purchased an interest in the *Gamla och Nya Hemlandet*, forming the firm of Johnson & Söderholm.

Five years later he bought his partner's share and formed the present Hemlandet Co.

In 1905, Mr. Johnson bought an interest in the only Swedish newspaper published at New York City, the *Nordstjernan*.

Mr. Johnson is the Swedish consul in New York, and has been an instrument of much good to Scandinavian immigrants. In recognition of this fact he was decorated by King Oscar II. with the order of Vasa, and in 1906 was awarded the decoration of the order of Dannebrog by King Fredrik of Denmark. In 1907 he was given the degree of LL. D. by Upsala College, Orange, N. J.

Mr. Johnson is a member of the council of the Swedish-American Historical Society and chairman of its finance committee, chairman of the Swedish Chamber of Commerce of New York, vice-president of the Scandinavian Sailors' Temperance Home in Brooklyn and a trustee of the Swedish hospital in Brooklyn.

E. BERNHARD CHRISTOPHER was born April 22, 1866, at Domnarfvet, Dalarne, Sweden. After obtaining a fundamental education he emigrated in 1886 and made his home in Chicago. He engaged in the manufacture of bicycles and; later, of automobiles. The Christopher Bros. establishment is at 1049 Sheffield ave., where is built the "Triumph," a self-starting car of 30 horsepower. General machine work and repairing is also done at the place.

Mr. Christopher has been a member of the Apollo Musical Club for several years. The experience thus gained has been put to good use, for he has been the choirmaster of the Swedish Baptist Church in Lake View since 1889 and has drilled more than one Handel chorus with his choir.



E. BERNHARD CHRISTOPHER

Mr. Christopher was married in September, 1887, to Miss Carolina Borggren. Their children are: Richard B., born 1888; Magnhild C., 1890; Gerald E., 1892; Elmer J., 1895, and Herbert, 1897.

OLANDER E. WALD, physician and surgeon, was born of Swedish parents in Bagn, Norway, Sept. 7, 1868. His father was a timber dealer in Östersund, doing business on both sides of the boundary line between Sweden and Norway. He came to the United States when the son was four years of age, settling at

Grand Forks, N. D., whence the family removed to Willapa, Wash., in 1878. The son later returned to



OLANDER E. WALD

Grand Forks to study. The high school course completed, he entered the University of Minnesota, but interrupted his studies to become agent for Northern Pacific lands in the state of Washington. In 1894 Mr. Wald entered the medical department of the University of Illinois and graduated with high honors in 1898. Dr. Wald's first appointment was that of field surgeon of the Scandinavian regiment organized in Minneapolis for service in the war with Spain, but which did not take the field, owing to the sudden termination of the eventful war. Subsequently Dr. Wald did post-graduate work for two years at Johns Hopkins University under Dr. Osler. During the second year he was in charge of the dispensary of the university. In June, 1901, he was appointed interne at Augustana Hospital, serving until December, 1903. Soon after, he was made surgeon-in-chief of the Bethesda and Lincoln Park hospitals.

In June, 1905, Dr. Wald and others founded the Lake View Hospital at 1728 Belmont ave., an institution headed by him in the capacity of chief surgeon.

In 1906, Dr. Wald was appointed professor of surgery at the Jenner Medical College.

He is a member of the Chicago Medical Society, of the Illinois State Medical Society and the Scandinavian Medical Society of Chicago; also member and examining physician of the Thor and Vega societies and of various lodges of the Independent Orders of Svithiod, Vikings and Maccabees, of the Knights of Pythias, Knights of the Golden Eagle and the Royal Arcanum.

Dr. Wald is affiliated with the Lutheran Church.

HARRY OLSON,

Chief Justice of the Municipal Court of Chicago, was born in Chicago Aug. 4, 1867. His father, Olof G. Olson, was a stone mason and bricklayer, who was born in Filipstad, Vermland. The mother, Clara C. Olson, was born at Sockholm. The family came to Chicago in 1865. When the son was three years old, the family removed to Kansas, where the father died nine years later. The family then returned to this state, to Win-

nebago county, where Mr. Olson was graduated from the Pecatonica high school in 1885. He



HARRY OLSON

subsequently taught school for two years in Kansas, and became principal of the public schools of St. Mary's, Kansas, in 1887. He studied at Washburne College, Topeka, for a like period and later entered Union College of Law in Chicago, completing the course and being admitted to the bar in 1891. He was engaged in the general practice of law for the next five years and in 1896 was appointed assistant state's attorney under Charles S. Deneen. He remained in that office for ten years, having been twice reappointed. The first important case that Mr. Olson conducted in Chicago was the trial of Moran and Healy, charged with the killing of Swan Nelson, in which case he was associated with Luther Laflin Mills for the prosecution.

During the time that Mr. Olson was assistant state's attorney of Cook county he was entrusted with the conduct of many of the most important cases prosecuted in that office, some of which attracted national attention. On account of the publicity given to the great trials held in the criminal court of Cook county, which, because of its extensive jurisdiction, is one of the greatest criminal tribunals in the world, Mr. Olson's eminent service in that court made him widely known and gave him national reputation as a barrister.

Mr. Olson's last and one of his greatest services to the people in his capacity of assistant state's attorney consisted in apprehending in Morocco and returning to the state of Illinois the fugitive bank looter, Paul O. Stensland, former president of the Milwaukee Ave. State Bank, and procuring his conviction and sentence to a term in the state penitentiary. It may be added that Mr. Olson materially assisted Mr. Deneen in creating the so-called "Bankers' Row" in that institution.

When in 1906 Chicago abolished the justice court and constable system and established in its stead the Municipal Court, the new system, to be an improvement on the old, required men of higher legal standing and better records than the average justice of the peace. Each of the two dominant parties looked about for a man particularly well qualified for the position of Chief Justice of the twenty-seven branches of the new

court, and the Republicans selected as their candidate Harry Olson, who was elected Nov. 6, 1906, with a plurality of 31,000 over the opposing candidates, one a Republican, the other a Democrat, a jurist of local eminence. As the directing head of this important branch of the judicial system of Chicago, Mr. Olson holds one of the foremost offices in the city. The Municipal Court of Chicago is the largest court in the state in the number of judges and the volume of business transacted.

In 1891 Mr. Olson was married to Miss Berenice Miller of Pecatonica, Ill. They have three children, Harry, Sanford and Jane.

Mr. and Mrs. Olson attend the Presbyterian Church.

JOHANNA E. T. DAHLGREN, superintendent of nurses at the Swedish - American Hospital in Englewood, is a native of Chicago, having been born there Dec. 20, 1875, the daughter of Peter Magnus Dahlgren and Ingrid Christina, née Swenson. The family lived for a number of years at Des Moines, Ia., where she received her early education, afterward attending high school in Chicago and studying at Augustana College. At the latter institution she completed the normal course and subsequently continued her studies for two years in the college department.

In 1901 Miss Dahlgren entered the Augustana Hospital Training School for Nurses, graduating after two years. Later she did post-graduate work at the Chicago Lying-in Hospital. For one year, 1903–04, she held the position of



JOHANNA EMILIA THERESIA DAHLGREN

acting superintendent of the Blessing Hospital at Quincy, Ill., and the next year was head nurse of the maternity department of the Presbyterian Hospital of Chicago. From there Miss Dahlgren was called as superintendent of the Englewood Hospital, which position she occupies at the present time.

Miss Dahlgren is an alumna of the Augustana Hospital, and a member of the Illinois State Association of Graduate Nurses and of the Superintendents' Society of Illinois.

She is a Lutheran in faith and a member of the Bethlehem Church of Englewood. Her home is at 6754 Yale ave.

JOHN J. ERICKSON,

proprietor of a number of restaurants in different parts of the city,



JOHN JACOB ERICKSON

was born at Fensbol, Vermland, Sweden, Jan. 14, 1865. He was brought to the United States at the age of three, when the family emigrated in 1868. They settled at Dassel, Minn., where Mr. Erickson lived until reaching the age of fifteen years. He then went to work in the printing office of a local newspaper in Grove City.

In 1883, together with Lambert Gisslow and C. E. Peterson, he began the publication of a newspaper named *Svenska Folkets Allehanda* at Litchfield, Minn., but retired from this company a year later. From 1886 to 1889 he worked as a compositor on various Swedish newspapers in Minneapolis. The latter year he organized a company, composed of Hjalmar Bergman, Gudmund Åkermark, Oliver Skone, Otto Oberg and himself, for the publication at Minneapolis of *Nya Verlden*. In 1890 he secured a position as a compositor on the Minneapolis *Times*, remaining until 1896, when he came to Chicago and worked at the linotype machine for four years, first for John Linden and later in the establishment of the Peterson Linotype Company.

Changing his occupation in 1900, he engaged in the restaurant business at the suggestion of his wife, who excelled in the art of cooking. They opened a restaurant at 130 N. Clark st., and succeeded so well in the venture that they soon added a second, located at No. 8 So. Clark st. Then followed a third, a fourth, a fifth and a sixth eating house in their respective locations, viz., 230 N. Clark st., 234 Wells st., 88 East Thirty-ninth st., and 428 E. North ave. The average number of persons served per day in the six restaurants Mr. Erickson estimates at 3,000.

The marriage of Mr. Erickson took place at Minneapolis Oct. 20, 1897. His wife, who was Miss Carolina Erikson, is also a native of Fensbol, where she was born July 14, 1867.

Mr. Erickson affiliates with no fraternal or social associations, his business occupying his entire time. In the summer of 1907, however, he took a vacation trip back to the land of his birth.

GUSTAF CARLSON

was born June 8, 1863, on the Donshults estate, Urshult parish,

Småland. His father died when the boy was two years old. The family moved the next year to



GUSTAF CARLSON

Karlshamn, where Gustaf, after his school career, learned the cigarmaker's trade. At sixteen he became a sailor and shipped several times to the East Indies and China. On one voyage he stopped at Capetown, South Africa, where he worked as a cigarmaker. In 1883 he shipped again, bound for New York. He did not remain there, but soon went to Buffalo, and finally to Chicago. Here he shipped on the great lakes for a season, and then resumed his trade. After nine years he began a business of his own. A few years ago he moved his factory to 172 N. 48th ave., Moreland.

Mr. Carlson is a member of I. O. S., Lodge No. 1, I. O. V., Odin Lodge No. 8, and the Swedish society Kronan.

Mr. Carlson was married in 1887 to Hilda Holm from Karlshamn. They have two sons and one daughter.

OLOF HEDEEN,

minister of the Swedish Baptist Church and professor of exegesis and homiletics at the Swedish department of the Union Theological Seminary at Morgan Park, was born at Undersåker, in the province of Jemtland, Sweden, June 19, 1860. He began his studies at a collegiate school in Östersund when sixteen years old. At seventeen, having been converted and filled with a desire to enter the holy ministry, he took up studies at the Fjellstedt School in Upsala,



OLOF HEDEEN

where the college course was completed, and afterwards studied exegetical theology and Greek literature at the Upsala University until 1883. Thereupon he was licensed by the archbishop of Sweden to preach and conduct services

in the State Church. Hedeen, however, had conscientious scruples concerning certain institutions and practices of the State Church. Thinking that the Lutheran Church in America might be more evangelical, he emigrated the same year with a view to entering its service. Most of his near relatives had preceded him across the Atlantic. Soon after his arrival in this country he assumed charge of the Swedish Lutheran Church in New Sweden, Maine, then belonging to a German Lutheran synod. In 1885, after having passed a satisfactory examination at the Augustana Theological Seminary at Rock Island, he was ordained as a minister in the Augustana Synod at its annual meeting in Rockford. Having accepted a call to the Swedish Lutheran Church of Manchester, N. H., he served there until 1890, during which time the membership of the church largely increased and a new edifice was built. Part of the time Rev. Hedeen served as secretary of the New York Conference of the Augustana Synod and was associate editor of *Österns Väktare* and Eastern correspondent of *Augustana och Missionären*.

In 1890 Rev. Hedeen withdrew from the Lutheran Church and joined the Baptist denomination, becoming a member of the Tremont Temple Church in Boston through baptism. Subsequently he served as pastor of the First Swedish Baptist Church of Brooklyn for six years, meeting with remarkable success. In that short period he baptized 237 persons and received altogether 570 new members into the church. In the meantime a new church edifice, known as the Swedish Tabernacle, was erected at a cost of $32,000.

In 1895 Rev. Hedeen was tendered the chair of exegetical theology in the Swedish department of the divinity school of the Chicago University at Morgan Park, but declined the call. The following year he was again offered the position, which he then accepted and still holds, being also professor of homiletics and Swedish literature.

During the past years Rev. Hedeen has done a considerable amount of literary work, translating several books into the Swedish language and rendering a number of hymns and other verse into the same tongue. He has been a frequent contributor to newspapers, periodicals and other publications, both in Sweden and America, and has preached and lectured in many parts of the United States.

CARL G. LAGERGREN,

dean of the Swedish Theological Seminary in Morgan Park, was born June 21, 1846, in Östersund, Jemtland, Sweden. At two years of age he was adopted by Mr. and Mrs. G. P. Lagergren of Indal, near relations, who for fourteen years gave the boy care and support. At thirteen he was enrolled at the lower elementary school of Sundsvall. On Whitsunday, 1862,

he was converted to the Baptist faith through a sermon preached by J. A. Hanner in the old Bap-



CARL G. LAGERGREN

tist chapel at Sundsvall. The change of religious belief cost the boy his home and maintenance, and at the age of sixteen he was thrown on his own resources. By securing a private tutorship he was enabled to complete his course. Having graduated in 1865 from the academy at Sundsvall, he was enrolled the same year at the higher elementary school, or college, of Östersund, completing his collegiate course in four years.

After a year's teaching in a private family, Lagergren in 1870 became assistant teacher of Swedish, Latin and Natural Science in the Sundsvall Academy. After another year he entered Upsala University and mapped out a course of study, leading to the degree of Ph. D., including anthropology and history of philosophy under the noted Pontus Wikner.

The struggling little Baptist church in Upsala, which had been reorganized in 1869 by J. A. Edgren—also noted in the history of Swedish - American Baptists — in 1871 called Lagergren as its pastor. He accepted the charge and after the first three years gave up his university studies to give all his time and energy to the work in the church. The result of twelve years of earnest labor in this field was shown in an increase in membership from fifty to about three hundred.

In 1873 Rev. Lagergren became editor of *Evangelisten*, the first Baptist paper in Sweden, at the request of Rev. Wiberg, its founder. After ten years it was succeeded by *Svärdet och Mursleſven*, (Sword and Trowel,) which was published by Lagergren up to 1889. He was editor and publisher of *Predikaren*, a religious monthly, in 1878–81. For two years, 1876–8, he also edited a temperance paper, entitled *Svenska Nykterhetsvännernas Tidning*. There was a lively temperance movement on foot in Sweden at the time, and Lagergren was one of its most active promoters. He traveled extensively in central and Northern Sweden giving temperance lectures and organizing so-called absolutist societies. Meanwhile he published a number of lectures and treatises on temperance and religious topics. His activity as a temperance worker caused him to be made a candidate for the riksdag for the

city of Upsala, and at the election a considerable number of votes were cast for him.

In 1883 Rev. Lagergren received a call from the Baptist church of Sundsvall, which had been torn by recent dissensions. On the advice of a number of leading Baptists Lagergren accepted the call.

On June 21 of that year Rev. Lagergren was joined in marriage to Selma Kristina Konstantia Westerlund of Strängnäs, a school teacher who had to give up teaching upon embracing the Baptist faith.

The following October Rev. Lagergren assumed the pastorate in Sundsvall, continuing in charge until 1889, the year after the destruction of the city by fire.

The General Conference of the Swedish Baptist Church of America at their meeting in Chicago in 1888 issued a second call to Rev. Lagergren to become dean of the divinity school in Morgan Park. In response, he came over in the spring of 1889 and, after spending the summer on a tour of the principal Baptist churches in the United States, entered upon his educational duties the following September. At this post Rev. Lagergren, through his learning and devotion to his church, continues to exercise an influence broad and deep on the Swedish Baptist denomination.

Rev. Lagergren is professor of Dogmatics, Ethics and Philosophical Propedeutics in the Swedish Baptist Theological Seminary of which he has been dean for the past 18 years. He is the author of several books on theological subjects, principally the following- "Om försoningen," "Små barns dop" and "Nytt och gammalt." He has written a textbook in dogmatics, published in two volumes, aud another in pastoral theology in one volume. He is also the author of a history of philosophy, not yet published.

Rev. Lagergren has served as chairman of the executive board of the Swedish General Conference for a term of years, and was successively elected president of the Conference until 1907. From 1891 to '93 he served as pastor of the Swedish Baptist Church of Englewood, of which he is still a member. He has been twice elected chairman of the Swedish-American Historical Society, organized in 1905. The title of Doctor of Divinity was conferred upon Rev. Lagergren by the Western University of Pennsylvania in 1907.

Rev. and Mrs. Lagergren's marital union has been blessed with eight children, three of whom are dead. Those living are, Zelma Maria Christina Eufrosyne, Gustav Petrus Constantin, Sigrid Anna Emma Carolina, Selma Gustafva Elisabet and Anna Constantia.

HENRY O. LINDEBLAD, minister of the Swedish Lutheran Church, was born March 7, 1845, in Bohus län, Sweden. At the age of thirteen he entered the Göteborg college, where he studied for several years. His parents being poor, he suffered

great privations while studying. In 1866 he came to America and at once entered Augustana Theo-



HENRY O. LINDEBLAD

logical Seminary at Paxton, Ill. He was ordained a minister of the Augustana Synod June 20, 1869, and was at once engaged by the mission board and stationed at Campello, Mass. He reorganized the congregation and built a church there, and then went to Boston, where he organized a new congregation.

In 1871 Lindeblad removed to Chandler's Valley, Pa. Here he had under his care two congregations and a dozen mission stations in Warren, McKean and adjacent counties. For several years he served as a member of the board of education of Warren county and as president of the New York Conference.

In 1879 he accepted a call from the Swedish Lutheran church at Moline, Ill., where he labored for thirteen years. He was for the same length of time a member of the board of directors of Augustana College and Theological Seminary and was successively secretary and president of that body. He was also a member of the Augustana Synod's board of missions and for nine years was a member of the board of directors of the Moline public library.

For a year after leaving his charge in Moline, the Rev. Mr. Lindeblad worked in Grand Crossing, Chicago, as a home missionary. During this time a church was erected there. He then became pastor of the Elim Swedish Lutheran Church of Pullman and remained there four and a half years.

The Rev. Mr. Lindeblad next served for several years at Augustana Hospital, Chicago, as chaplain and solicitor. After about five years' service in that capacity Rev. Lindeblad, in 1903, accepted a call to the Swedish Ev. Lutheran Church at La Grange, Ill., his present charge.

Rev. and Mrs. Lindeblad have a family of grown children, one son, Luther, being an attorney at law, and a daughter, Alma, a teacher in the public schools.

HJALMAR J. LIND

was born March 24, 1864, in Knätte, Elfsborgs län, Sweden. While living with his father, Joseph Abramson, on the Halmåkra farm in Liared, he had the schooling of the ordinary farmer

boy. In 1882 he left home, emigrating to America. Here he was for eight years employed in the grocery business. In 1890 he became a partner in the firm of Sahlen & Burkross, hardware dealers, buying out Mr. Sahlen and changing the style of the firm to Lind & Burkross. In 1898 Mr. Lind became sole owner of the business, which is still carried on under the name of Lind & Burkross at 134 Oak st.

Mr. Lind was married in 1891 to Miss Hulda Erika Burkross. They have five children, four sons and one daughter.

Mr. Lind belongs to the Swedish Mission Church, where he has held the offices of trustee and treasurer.

HJALMAR C. LUNDQUIST

was born at the Bofors mills in Karlskoga, Sweden, Oct. 11, 1883. He is the son of K. J. F. Lundquist, foreman at the Falu Wagon and Machine Works at Falun, and his wife, Hulda Serafia Wennerblad. The parents came to Chicago in 1886 and returned to Sweden ten years later. In this city the son attended the common schools, and in Sweden he studied at the academic school in Arboga and the public college in Örebro, completing the course there in the spring of 1905. The following October he returned to Chicago. After two months he obtained a position with *Svenska Tribunen* as associate editor, remaining until June, 1906. During the next few months he was similarly connected with *Chicago-Bladet*. Having worked for a short time in the draughting room of



HJALMAR CARL LUNDQUIST

the National Coal Dump Car Co., he returned to his former position with *Tribunen*, now consolidated with *Svenska Nyheter*, but left in December, 1907, to take a position with *Hemlandet*.

Mr. Lundquist is a member of the First Swedish Lodge No. 479, I. O. O. F., the Verdandi Lodge No. 3, I. O. S., and was one of the organizers of the Swedish Chess Club.

JOHN A. SODERSTROM

was born in Chicago Oct. 10, 1872. After attending the public school he entered upon a business life, at the same time continuing private studies. He is a member of the firm of Soderstrom Brothers, located at 141–143 So. Clinton st., where they manufacture sample cards and sample book specialties.

The firm also deals in neckwear manufacturers' supplies.

Mr. Soderstrom is a member of the Second Swedish Methodist Church.

AXEL T. CARLSON

was born on the farm of his father, Nils Johan Karlsson, in the



AXEL THEODORE CARLSON

parish of Misterhult, Småland, Sweden, Sept. 10, 1875. His father subsequently engaged in the shipping trade, owning two sloops and holding part interest in a schooner. Equipped with a common school education, young Carlson came to this country with his father in 1888. They located in Axtell, Neb., and went to farming. After spending two and one-half years in that vocation, the son went to Omaha in 1890 and secured a situation as office boy with the Omaha *Svenska Tribun*. Subsequently Mr. Carlson was for eleven years in the art business, as local salesman and traveling representative of art dealers in Omaha, Milwaukee and Chicago, including more than four years as traveling salesman for L. M. Johnson, wholesale art dealer of Chicago. In 1896–97 he was connected with *Hemlandet* as traveling agent. In 1904 he again entered the service of that newspaper, this time in the capacity of advertising manager, a position still held by him.

When Mr. Carlson left his father's farm he was thrown entirely on his own resources and has since had his own way to make. The elder Karlsson, not satisfied with his experiment in American agriculture, returned after a few years to the old country.

CARL O. F. BURKSTROM

is a native of Stockholm, Sweden, where he was born July 4, 1852. He emigrated to this country in 1869 and was employed as a clothing salesman until 1884, when he secured a position as a commercial traveler, traversing the country from coast to coast and from Winnipeg to New Orleans. In 1892 Mr. Burkstrom engaged in the sale of woolens and ladies' dress goods at wholesale, continuing until 1897, when the firm of Trieloff & Burkstrom was forced to suspend on account of the depressed business conditions. He is now the sole distributor for the United States and Canada of a proprietary article known as "Himalaya Tonic," an employ-

ment in which he has been engaged for several years.

Mr. Burkstrom is a 32d degree



CARL OSCAR F. BURKSTROM

Mason, a Knight Templar and a Shriner.

CARL AXEL COLSTROM

was born near Göteborg, Sweden, March 23, 1866. His father, Carl Johan Colström, was a miller in the old country and later followed the carpenter's trade until he emigrated and settled near Osage City, Kans., when he engaged in agriculture. He helped to organize the Swedish Lutheran Church at Osage City, and has always been one of its leaders and most faithful members. He is now living in the city as a retired farmer and is the oldest living pioneer of that place.

The son, Carl A. Colstrom, was reared on the farm and attended the district school. In 1884 he was sent to Bethany Academy, the forerunner of Bethany College, at Lindsborg, Kans., and there took a two years' course of study. In 1886 he went to Augustana College at Rock Island, Ill., and graduated with the class of '92 from that institution.

For the next three years Mr. Colstrom held the position of principal of the Avon township schools, in Baraga county, Mich. While there he was local reporter for the Detroit *Evening News*. This first experience in newspaper work led to direct connection with other newspapers, and for the next four years he was attached in a business and editorial capacity to *Nya Pressen* of Moline, Ill., and *Minnesota Stats Tidning* of St. Paul, Minn., both Swedish weeklies.

Mr. Colstrom in 1899 accepted a position as traveling passenger agent of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company's Atlantic service, with headquarters at Minneapolis. In January, 1904, he was appointed assistant general passenger and ticket agent of the same line at Chicago. A year later he left the service of the Canadian Pacific to become manager of the Chicago office of the Theo. F. Koch Land Company, and is the local representative of that firm at the present time, with office at 1025 Unity Building, 79 Dearborn st.

HANS A. LEAFGREN

was born Sept. 8, 1866, in Farhult, Skåne, Sweden. His father, Anders Löfgren, was a farmer and

builder. The son attended public school until the age of fifteen, when he emigrated to this country, with Garfield, Minn., as his destination. After living there a year, he moved to Fergus Falls, Minn., and went to work as a mason. As a journeyman mason he worked at his trade in St. Paul, Omaha and Denver. In 1892 Mr. Leafgren went to Chicago and began taking contracts for masonry work. In the meantime he took a commercial course in one of the business colleges. At present he has an extensive business in Chicago and in the country.

Mr. Leafgren is a member of the Masonic order.

In 1891, while in Denver, he was married to Miss Julia Räf from the province of Vestmanland, Sweden. They have a son, Roy Walter.

JOHN BENDIX,

minister of the Swedish Methodist Episcopal Church and financial agent of the Bethany Home, is a native of Småland, Sweden, born in Färgaryd Aug. 13, 1849. At the age of fourteen he lost his father, Sven Anderson, by death, his mother having passed away eleven years prior. As a youth he went to Stockholm and was for a number of years employed in the home of his cousin, Carl Johan Jehander, the well-known Swedish railway builder.

In 1872 he came to the United States, and spent the next few years in Dover, N. J. His rearing and early education had been of a Christian character, and in Stockholm the earnest preaching



JOHN BENDIX

of Rev. Beskow had impressed him deeply. In 1873 he experienced a definite change of heart and was among the first to join the Swedish M. E. Church in Dover at its organization. In response to an inward call to enter the service of the church, he entered the theological seminary upon recommendation in 1876. The same year he preached his first sermon, which rendered him a few kind words of commendation and encouragement by the well-known Captain Lindgren. In 1878 he was accepted into the Conference on probation, and two years later became a member in full connection. He was ordained deacon in 1878, by Bishop Merrill, and elder in 1880, by Bishop Peck. Subsequently he was pastor at Moline two years, at Andover three years,

and, after having served the church at Bishop Hill for two years, was appointed presiding elder of the Burlington district in 1887, and filled that office for the next six years. In 1893 he was transferred to the Second Swedish M. E. Church of Chicago and had charge until 1896, when he accepted the position of financial agent for the Bethany Home, a retreat for the aged. Rev. Bendix has given eleven years of service to this institution and still remains at its head.

Rev. Bendix was married Oct. 6, 1880, to Alma Mathilda Danielson of Oakland, Neb. She was born on the same date twenty years before. Of seven children born to them, three are living. The eldest son, Vincent, born Aug. 10, 1881, is president of the Bendix Co. of Cragin, automobile manufacturers, and is himself the patentee of a power transmission arrangement known as the "turn friction system." The shop employs thirty workmen. The daughter, Esther Virginia, born May 3, 1883, is a teacher in the Chicago public schools. The second son, Ernest Oliver, born Oct. 10, 1885, was graduated in 1907 from the Northwestern University with the degree of A. B., and is now employed in the land department of the N. W. Harris Trust Company of Chicago.

AXEL F. MALMQUIST

was born in the Swedish city of Landskrona Oct. 1, 1866. His early education was obtained in his home city. At the age of fourteen he was apprenticed to a carpenter and joiner, remaining



AXEL FRITHIOF MALMQUIST

until he had mastered the trade and become a journeyman.

In August, 1888, he came to this country and Chicago and here continued to follow his trade until 1893, when he associated himself with Edward Fjellander for the purpose of publishing a newspaper, named *Forskaren*, at Rockford. Its first number appeared in September of that year. Malmquist was associate editor of this paper while published at Rockford and after its removal to Minneapolis in 1894. In 1896 he returned to Chicago and was employed for a time on *Svenska Tribunen*, first as agent and later as local news reporter, until given the position of editor-in-chief of *Svenska Nyheter* in 1901. Mr. Malmquist directed the editorial work on that paper until its con-

solidation with *Svenska Tribunen* in July, 1906, when he resigned. Not long after his present position of associate editor of *Svenska Amerikanaren* was tendered him.

Mr. Malmquist, although essentially a self-taught man, is a capable writer with a trenchant, though somewhat rough-hewn style. He holds radical opinions and is an extremist in the defense of his views. In *Forskaren*, under the head of "Forskningsprodukter," and later in the editorial columns of *Svenska Nyheter* his virile pen was principally employed in the cause of labor and socialism and on the side of agnosticism as against the Church.

Before engaging in journalism Mr. Malmquist made poetical contributions to the newspapers and has continued to develop his talent in that line. A collection of his verse was published in 1899, bearing the characteristic title "Törnen och Tistlar" (Thorns and Thistles).

Mr. Malmquist is a member of the Independent Order of Vikings and has held the office of Grand Chief of the order for the past two years. He has also taken an active part in the work of the Swedish National Association and acted as secretary and held other offices in that organization.

FRANCIS E. JOHNSON

was born June 17, 1873, in Bloomington, Ill. He was educated at Evergreen City Business College and in the law department of the Illinois Wesleyan University at Bloomington. After coming to Chicago he worked for five years



FRANCIS EMIL JOHNSON

as mileage clerk in the accountant's office of the Chicago and Alton R. R. Company. This situation he left to become cashier in the office of the Strömberg-Carlson Telephone Manufacturing Co.

Determined to start in business on his own account, Mr. Johnson entered into a co-partnership known as Weig & Johnson, dealing in real estate, and acting as managers of the Lake View Safety Deposit Company's vaults at 1743 North Clark st. He remained a member of this firm until October, 1907, when Mr. Weig purchased his interest.

On Feb. 25, 1899, Mr. Johnson married to Miss Cora Viola Wallace. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are members of the Millard Avenue Presbyterian Church.

HENRY NELSON

was born Jan. 14, 1861, in Fårlöf, Skåne, Sweden. He emi-



HENRY NELSON

grated to the United States in 1876. After taking the course of studies offered at the Morgan Park Theological Seminary he was ordained a minister of the Baptist Church in America. He has served as pastor in Valley and Omaha, Neb., La Porte, Ind., Grand Rapids, Mich., and Chicago, Ill. For twelve years the Rev. Mr. Nelson was the official representative of the American Baptist Publication Society for the Swedish Baptist churches and manager of the Swedish department of the society. He was the editor and manager of the weekly Swedish Sunday school paper, *Barnens Tidning*. Rev. Nelson collaborated in compiling the collection of "Valda Hymner" used by the Swedish Baptist Church in America.

Since 1907, Mr. Nelson has been president of the Scandia Loan and Investment Association.

BIRGER A. PETERSON,

manufacturer of Swedish snuff, was born in Jönköping, Sweden, Dec. 26, 1868. After obtaining a common and high school education in the old country, he emigrated to the United States with his father, C. W. Peterson, in 1886, locating in Chicago. Here father and son immediately established themselves in the tobacco trade. Their first location was in Oak st. Two years later they took larger quarters at 39 E. Chicago ave., where they remained until 1891, removing then to 1241 Bel-



BIRGER A. PETERSON

mont ave., where they erected a building of their own. Charles E. and Tobias T. Peterson, younger brothers of Birger, joined the firm upon attaining their majority. After the death of the elder Pe-

terson in 1899 the three brothers continued the business. Tobias died July 10, 1905, and Charles Sept. 20, 1906, leaving Birger in charge of the business as sole proprietor.

He owns two buildings at 1241 Belmont ave., the rear one containing the manufacturing plant. Here, with the aid of two men and requisite machinery, run by steam, he manufactures on the average 3,000 pounds of snuff per month. Mr. Peterson sells his output to wholesale dealers exclusively. He also conducts a retail cigar and tobacco store on the premises.

Mr. Peterson, who is unmarried, belongs to the Monitor Council of the Royal Arcanum and the Three Links Lodge of Odd Fellows.

JOHN S. ERIKSON

was born in Jönköping, Sweden, March 1, 1859. After his school days were over he learned the trade of a mason. Hoping for a better future in the land of the stars and stripes, he left his native city, emigrating to America in 1882. Soon he found himself in Chicago, where for two years he worked as a carpenter. During the next two years he followed his old trade. Mr. Erikson then ventured to make some building contracts, which he carried out successfully, and has since continued in the vocation of a contractor.

Mr. Erikson is an adherent of the Swedish Lutheran Church and belongs to the Knights of Maccabees.

In 1888 Mr. Erikson was married to Jennie E. Johnson, who was born in Olmstad, Småland, Sweden. They have three sons and two daughters.

CARL U. W. OTTONIUS

was born Nov. 30, 1860, in Adolf Fredrik parish, Stockholm. His



CARL UNO WILHELM OTTONIUS

parents were Otto Wilhelm Ottonius, police commissioner in Adolf Fredrik parish, and Selma Fredrika, née Phalén. After finishing the sixth form in Jönköping high school, the son took a course in Smedman's business college in Stockholm. In 1878 he entered D. F. Bonnier's book store in Göteborg, and for thirteen years clerked in various book stores in Sweden.

In the fall of 1891 Mr. Ottonius emigrated to this country. Since May, 1892, he has been in the

employ of the Swedish M. E. Book Concern, where his knowledge of the book trade makes him invaluable.

Mr. Ottonius was married May 19, 1888, to Wilhelmina Emerentia Sund, daughter of the military surgeon Anders Sund and Carolina Sund, at Bäcktorp, Åtorp, Vermland, Sweden.

OTTO HÖGFELDT,

editor-in-chief of *Missions-Vännen*, is the son of a farmer of Dals-



OTTO HÖGFELDT

land, who had formerly served in the Swedish army. He was born Aug. 10, 1861, the youngest of eight children. The lad had a passion for reading and, when the small supply of reading matter in the home gave out, borrowed from the neighbors. Having been converted during the confirmation term, he became a Sunday school teacher at sixteen. About the same time he wrote his first contribution to the press—a correspondence to a free church paper. His purpose to take a course of study having been persistently thwarted by his father, he left home for America at the age of twenty in order to pursue his own course in life. Coming to Ishpeming, Mich., in the fall of 1881, he worked in a mine for one year before being able to realize his desire to study. He had affiliated with the free church element, known as the Mission Friends, while in Sweden, and now entered Ansgarius College, a school maintained by the same denomination at Knoxville, Ill. His divinity course under Prof. Princell having been completed, he was called to the church at Iron Mountain, Mich., where he labored for the next three years.

During a trip to Sweden in 1888 Mr. Högfeldt wrote a series of letters to *Missions-Vännen*. This led to his being called to take an editorial position on that paper. After declining the first offer, he accepted the position a year later upon a repetition of the call. His first intention was to go back to pastoral duties after a short time, but despite repeated calls from different churches, he has remained with the paper these eighteen years, being of great service to his Church in the able editorial conduct of its leading organ. In the meantime, however, he has been in frequent demand as a preacher or speaker at church conventions and other public occasions. Since 1891 Mr. Högfeldt

has published *Hemât*, a religious annual, in the interest of the Mission Covenant.

Rev. Högfeldt is one of the most energetic workers in the Covenant, and has served as secretary of that church body for a number of years.

He is married to Augusta Lindberg of Iron Mountain, Mich., and has a family of eight children.

PETER O. EKSTRÖM

was born July 26, 1870, at Bomsarfvet, Gagnef parish, Dalarne,



PETER O. EKSTRÖM

Sweden. His parents, farmer folk, were Olof Olsson and Christina, née Jacobson. He passed in the public schools and was confirmed in 1885, then for three years enjoying private tuition with the teacher's or the ministerial calling in view, but which came to naught owing to religious dissentment. During the years 1887–90 he lived in Ljusne, Helsingland, and there joined the Baptist denomination. In 1891 Mr. Ekström emigrated to the United States, partly to avoid military service, which he considered wrong, and partly to acquire a better schooling than was possible in the old country for a man in his circumstances. In 1891–99 he worked in summer and went to school in winter, part of the time at the Normal School in St. Cloud, Minn. The years from 1899–1903 he spent in the Swedish Baptist Seminary at Morgan Park, graduating from that institution in the spring of 1903. During the three latter years as a student, Mr. Ekström had pastoral charge of the Swedish Baptist congregation at Berwyn, Ill., and a pleasant church edifice was built. The summer of 1900 he spent in Kandiyohi county, Minn., serving partly as school teacher and as a preacher. In 1903–04 he labored as a missionary in Southern Michigan and as pastor in Bay City of that state. At New Year's in 1905 he moved to St. Cloud, Minn., and took charge of the Swedish Baptist church there. Since May, 1907, he has labored in the Red River Valley as a missionary pastor, so called.

In politics, Rev. Ekström calls himself a Prohibitionist-Republican, but is a liberalist in all questions pertaining to the body politic.

The marriage of Rev. Ekström to Miss Katarina Mathilda Boren of Minneapolis, Minn., was celebrated in August, 1904.

CARL H. GRUND

was born April 24, 1864, in Karlstad, Sweden. He took the course



CARL HUGO GRUND

of instruction offered at the collegiate school in Karlstad, spending six years there. At Mellerud, in the province of Dal, he was engaged as apprentice in a pharmacy in 1885, and three years later passed the examination as assistant pharmacist at the Pharmaceutical Institute in Stockholm. After serving for a year he came to America in September, 1889. A situation was at once secured in Chicago. Four months after his arrival he passed the examination as registered pharmacist. After clerking for one year and a half, an opportunity to purchase his employer's interest was taken advantage of, and he became the proprietor of the drug store on the corner of Hoyne ave. and 35 st., which he still owns.

Mr. Grund is a member of the McKinley Park Swedish M. E. Church and has served as treasurer of its board of trustees for the past three years. In politics he is an independent Republican.

Mr. Grund was married in 1891 to Signe Brand, who died, leaving a child. After her demise he was married on June 17, 1892 to her sister, Anna Brand, who bore him three sons and a daughter. The five children are: Signe Florence, Carl Hugo, Roy Walter, Esther and Norman Lars.

ANDERS TOFFT,

associate editor of *Svenska Tribunen-Nyheter*, was born Sept. 28, 1861, at Bäreberg, Vestergötland, Sweden. After finishing the public school course, he continued his



ANDERS TOFFT

studies at home. Emigrating to the United States in 1883, he went to Red Wing, Minn. The following spring he moved to St. Paul. After some years he had

saved sufficient to enable him to attend Gustavus Adolphus College, from which he was graduated in 1893. Obtaining a position on the staff of *Minnesota Stats Tidning*, he remained with that paper until 1899, when he became an editor of *Svenska Folkets Tidning*. The following year he was attracted to Boston, but left after a few months to become city editor of *Svenska Tribunen*. Mr. Tofft retains the same position on the consolidated *Svenska Tribunen-Nyheter*.

JAMES T. WIGREN,

manager of the Swedish M. E. Book Concern, was born Jan. 13,



JAMES T. WIGREN

1854, in Attica, Ind. He is a son of the pioneer preacher, John Wigren. He joined the Methodist Church in 1868, and five years later preached his first sermon at Kewanee, Ill. In 1876 he was ordained a deacon by Bishop Wiley at Pekin, Ill., and at the same time joined the Central Illinois Conference. During a long term of years he was pastor of the congregations of Swedona, Donovan, Evanston, Geneva and Batavia, Ill., Stratford, Des Moines and Keokuk, Ia., Bishop Hill, Ill., and Burlington, Ia. In 1893 Rev. Wigren became presiding elder for the Galesburg district of the Swedish Central Conference, retaining this responsible position for six years. Assigned to Evanston in 1899, he labored there until 1903, when he removed to Chicago, becoming pastor of the Moreland Swedish M. E. Church.

In 1906 Rev. Wigren was appointed manager of the Swedish M. E. Book Concern and still retains this position.

Rev. James T. Wigren was united in marriage with Eva Sandell of Donovan, Ill., Sept. 19, 1878. They have two sons, Victor Fingal, born in Batavia July 27, 1880, and John, born in Bishop Hill April 6, 1890.

FRANK E. ANDERSON

was born in Sweden Dec. 18, 1873. His father, Bernhard Anderson, was a piano-maker. His mother was Inga Anderson. The family emigrated to the United States in 1882 and settled in Chicago. Here the son attended public school until his sixteenth year, when he went to work. He engaged in tailoring and having learned the trade, went into business for himself as a merchant

tailor. His place of business is at 215 Dearborn st.

Mr. Anderson is married to Frida Kabatek. They have a son, Percival H. Anderson.

CHRISTOFFER BRUSELL,

actor and theatrical manager, was born July 26, 1861, in Stockholm,



CHRISTOFFER BRUSELL

where his father was the proprietor of the Kungsholmen brewery. Young Brusell, who had a natural gift of song and other requisites for the public stage, discontinued his college studies in order to enter the pupils' class at the Royal Opera. The dramatic training here obtained by him was supplemented by private musical instruction by Anders Willman, a noted operatic singer. Upon his father's failure in business, Brusell entered the employ of a mercantile house in Stockholm, remaining until 1882, when, upon attaining his majority, he left for the United States.

In Chicago he soon entered the employ of A. Ellinger & Co., the cloak firm. After five years he was made manager of its factory at Racine, Wis. Returning to Chicago in 1892, Brusell secured a situation with F. Siegel & Co. After three years with this firm, he became foreman and examiner with the Empire Cloth Sponging and Refinishing Co., remaining in that capacity for more than ten years.

During his entire residence in Chicago Mr. Brusell has been active in theatrical circles. Of the eighty odd parts taken by him in Swedish plays, many have been leading ones, calling for the highest talent at the company's command. The introduction to Chicago audiences of many of the best comedy dramas of Sweden redounds to the credit of Mr. Brusell and the meritorious aggregation of theatrical people from time to time.

In 1895 he engaged the North Side Turner Hall for a series of five plays there given under his direction. The Studebaker Theater was hired for the season of 1901–02, when three plays were enacted. That season Mr. Brusell played Birger Jarl in "Bröllopet på Ulfåsa," and took leading parts in two other plays. At the Grand Opera House the next season he put on three plays, handling a leading part in each. In 1903 the company under his direction gave "Lifvet på landet," and

during the season of 1907–08 several performances were given by the Swedish Theatrical Company, headed by him. Part of the time Mr. Brusell has been associated with Ernst Behmer of the Swed-Dramatic Company, when the two companies of players cooperated.

During his early years in Chicago Mr. Brusell was a member of the old Freja Singing Society, long dissolved, and later belonged to the Swedish Glee Club and the Svithiod Singing Club. He holds membership in the Merchants' Council No. 142, Royal League.

In 1883 Mr. Brusell was united in marriage with Miss Anna Palmborg of Stockholm. Of five children born to them, the daughter Hedvig has inherited her father's dramatic talent.

CARL A. BJÖRK

was one of the founders of the Swedish Mission Church in America in the late sixties, and in 1885 aided in the organization of the Swedish Evangelical Mission Covenant, of which he has been president ever since.

He was born in Lommaryd parish, Småland, Sweden, July 29, 1837, on the farm of his parents, Sven Svenson and Anna Stina Samuelson. The mother passed away in Lommaryd in 1878, followed two years later by the father. Having attended common school, the son at the age of fourteen was apprenticed to a shoemaker, and at nineteen entered military service in the Norra Vebo Company of the Jönköping Regiment. Having served for eight years, he resigned in 1864 and left for America. Landing at



CARL AUGUST BJÖRK

Quebec, he proceeded to Boone county, Iowa, and located at Mineral Ridge, where he worked at his trade until 1868. When a little group of Mission Friends was formed at Swede Bend, he would frequently conduct their religious meetings and in the last-named year he was called as regular preacher to the little flock. In 1876 he left for Chicago, accepting a call to become pastor of the Swedish Evangelical Mission Church on the north side. Until 1894 he remained in charge of this church, and resigned only to assume the more responsible position of mission superintendent of the Mission Covenant, in which he still serves.

When the Evangelical Lutheran Mission Synod was formed in May, 1873, in Keokuk, Ia., Rev. Björk

was one of its organizers and incorporators. Having been elected its president in 1877, he served in that capacity until 1885, when the synod became a component part of the Mission Covenant, Rev. Björk being chosen head of the new body at the time and each succeeding year down to the present.

As president of the Covenant, he has participated in founding and developing all the branches of its work, prominent among which are the educational work conducted at North Park College and the benevolent work carried on by the charity home and hospital maintained by the Covenant in Bowmanville. Rev. Björk's especial care, however, consists in supervising and promoting the Covenant missions, comprising the home and foreign fields.

On Oct. 24, 1866, Rev. Björk was married to Johanna Christina Boman, who bore him four children, Ida Susanna, born 1867; Selma Amanda, 1869; Joseph Albert, 1871; Victor Harry, 1875. His first wife having died in 1876, Rev. Björk on July 6, 1878, entered wedlock anew, his second wife being Augusta Sophia Peterson, born in Gåsborn parish, Vermland, May 8, 1846. In the second union there are three sons and one daughter, to-wit: August Emanuel, born 1879; Theresia Elisabeth, 1880; David Theodor, 1883; Carl Otto, 1885. Ida Susanna is the wife of August Stenström and Theresia Elisabeth died in 1903.

The Björk family residence is at 3297 N. Sawyer ave., North Park, Chicago.

S. NILSSON SWAN,

president of the Swan Company, manufacturers of pianos and organs at Freeport, Ill., was born June 20, 1844, in Gärds-Köpinge, Skåne, Sweden. He comes of a long-lived family, his father, Nils Pearson, a butcher and tanner, having died at 75 years of age, and his mother, Karna Pearson, at 72 years.



S. NILSSON SWAN

After receiving such education as the local public schools afforded, he was at fifteen apprenticed to a cabinet-maker. In 1863, his term of apprenticeship being finished, he became a pattern-maker at Kristianstad and later at Malmö. A year was spent here at piano-making. Returning to Kristianstad, he started in 1867 a furniture factory.

On April 8, 1868, he embarked

for America, landing in New York on Easter Sunday. He went to Wyanet, Ill., and worked at cabinet-making for two years. In September, 1870, he went to Mendota, Ill., where he was employed



MRS. S. NILSSON SWAN

as action maker by the Western Cottage Organ Co. In 1876 he became a foreman contractor in the fly finish and action department of the factory. Moving in 1887 to Chicago, he purchased an interest in the Chicago Cottage Organ Co. and also became a foreman contractor in the fly finish and action department of this factory. By 1892 he employed ninety men under his contracts. In April, 1893, he sold his holdings in the Cable Co., as the firm was then styled, for $45,000. At once he purchased stock in the Hobart M. Cable Co. and entered upon the position of manager and superintendent of the Burdett Organ Factory in Freeport, Ill. In November, 1907, Mr. Swan bought this plant and formed the Swan Co., with himself as president.

The organ factory has a capacity of thirty reed organs per day and employs over one hundred workers. The instruments are sold in Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Germany, England and Scotland, besides all parts of the United States.

Mr. Swan is a member of a number of Masonic bodies, such as the Excelsior No. 97, A. F. and A. M., Chapter No. 23, Commandery No. 7 and Freeport Consistory. He is also a member of the Modern Woodmen.

Mr. Swan was united in marriage on July 22, 1866, at Kristianstad, to Ingrid Carlson. She is the daughter of Fredrik and



DAVID EDWARD SWAN

Anna Hokenson Carlson, and was born at Broby, Sweden, Dec. 10, 1842. To Mr. and Mrs. Swan have been born seven children,

viz.: Anna J. C., May 9, 1867; David E., Aug. 15, 1869; Gustaf A. E., Sept. 11, 1871; Amanda A. (Mrs. Harry H. Loomis), Aug. 8, 1873; Ingrid Matilda (Mrs. Frank Reinhardt), May 15, 1875; Hulda O. (Mrs. Arthur H. Anderson), June 4, 1877; Minnie V., Aug. 23, 1879.

The Swans are members of the Swedish Lutheran Church. The family home is at 3415 Calumet ave., Chicago.

DAVID E. SWAN

was born Aug. 15, 1869, at Wyanet, Ill. His father is the veteran organ builder, S. Nilsson Swan. When fourteen years of age, David left school and since then has had a practical training in organ factories, becoming an expert organ builder. From 1888 until 1903 he was a foreman at the Cable Co. plant in Chicago. He then transferred his activities to the Burdette organ factory at Freeport in the capacity of assistant superintendent. Since the incorporation of the Swan Co., he is also manager of the sales department.

Mr. Swan is an Elk and also a 32d degree Mason, Rockford Shriner, White Shriner, Chaldean and an Eastern Star Mason. He is further a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, the Royal League, the Columbian Knights, as well as the Freeport Club and the Germania Society of Freeport.

His marriage to Hilda L. Anderson of Chicago took place Feb. 27, 1895. Mrs. Swan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John P. Anderson, was born Oct. 29, 1870. They are members of the Swedish Lutheran Church, and reside at 156 West st., Freeport, Ill.

GUSTAF A. E. SWAN

was born Sept. 11, 1871, at Mendota, Ill., a son of the well-known



GUSTAF A. E. SWAN

organ manufacturer, S. Nilsson Swan. He attended the public school until sixteen years of age, when he began work in the organ factory. At the early age of twenty-two years he became a foreman in the Cable Co.'s factory in Chicago. After ten years' service he moved May 1, 1903, to Freeport, Ill., where he continued in the same capacity in the Burdett organ factory. Since the formation of the Swan Company he has also been vice-president of the firm.

Mr. Swan was elected alderman for West Freeport in 1905 and served one term. He is a mem-

ber of Ben Hur Lodge, Columbian Knights, and of the Royal Arcanum.

Nov. 14, 1900, Mr. Swan celebrated his marriage to Esther M. Johanson of Chicago. She was born May 22, 1878, to John and Christina Johanson.

The Messrs. S. Nilsson, David and Gustaf Swan are men of unusual ability, with a record in business and inventive fields placing them in the front rank as organ builders and factory managers.

ELLYN MARIE SWANSON

is a young singer, who was barely out of her 'teens before she



ELLYN MARIE SWANSON

acquired recognition on the concert platform. Her voice is a rich and full soprano, susceptible to the highest development.

Miss Ellyn Swanson is the daughter of Adolph Swanson, a machinist, and his wife, Ida Fredrika, née Rhenborg. She was born in Chicago Jan. 1, 1884. At the age of five she evinced musical talent and sang with a voice of a musical quality unusual in a child. Having studied privately from her early years, she entered the Chicago Musical College at the age of eighteen, continuing for a period of four years. She there received four free scholarships and has been awarded no less than three diamond medals. Miss Swanson also has studied with Herman DeVries, the baritone, taking seventh grade in the teachers' class, and a post graduate course leading to the degree of Bachelor of Music.

Miss Ellyn Swanson is now connected with two institutions, namely the Central College of Music and the Balatka College, as instructor in voice. For several years back she is soloist of the First Congregational Church of Oak Park. Since she entered the field as a professional singer not long ago, she has become one of the favorite vocalists of Chicago. She is doing both concert and operatic work, is a member of the Balatka Concert Company and has appeared at the Auditorium in local productions of "Faust" and "Samson and Delilah," also in a Swedish country play.

WILLIAM A. PETERSON,

minister of the Swedish Baptist denomination and ex-professor at the theological seminary in Morgan Park, was born March 24,

1860, at Ärila, Södermanland, Sweden. He completed the course in the people's schools at the age



WILLIAM A. PETERSON

of fourteen. At eighteen, while on a hunting trip of a Sunday afternoon with a friend, he had a hair-breadth escape from being killed by the premature discharge of a gun. This accident deeply stirred the young man's mind and marked the turning point in his spiritual life. Having come under Baptist influence prior to this, he joined the Baptist Church at Ärila through immersion in January, 1879. On the advice of his pastor he decided to devote himself to evangelistic work, and began as a missionary, engaged by the Mission Union of Södermanland.

Having labored in the mission field during the years 1881–83, and feeling the need of further training, he entered the Bethel Seminary at Stockholm, where he pursued studies for the next three years. From 1886 to 1888 he was pastor of the church in Sala, a charge which he left to go to the United States. A few months after his arrival in this country he entered the Swedish department of the Baptist Union Theological Seminary at Morgan Park, from which he was graduated the following spring. He preached in Iron River during the ensuing summer, then returned to the seminary, entering the American department. Not satisfied with the course leading to the degree of B. D., which he earned in a year, he pursued post-graduate studies until the spring of 1891, meanwhile serving as assistant instructor in Greek, Hebrew and Swedish.

He was ordained and served as pastor of the church at Sioux Falls, S. D., for one year. After that he spent three years at the University of Chicago as a post-graduate student. In 1895 he was called as regular professor in the Swedish department of the Morgan Park institution, accepting the chair of universal and church history, and the Greek and Swedish languages. In 1907, having acquired views at variance with his denomination, he resigned and went to Sweden, settling in the vicinity of Eskilstuna.

CHARLES H. JOHNSTON

was born in Kroppa parish, Vermland, Sweden, Nov. 6, 1860. He

learned the iron worker's trade in his father's shop. Five years were then spent working in the Nordenfelt Gatling Gun Factory. Leaving Sweden in 1886, he first settled in Pittsburgh. By the next year he was in Chicago, where he worked in various shops. In 1889 he opened a shop on Indiana st. for the manufacture of all kinds of ironwork for building purposes. In 1902 he removed his shop to 110–112 E. Ohio st. The present location of the Johnston Iron Works is 257–259 E. Division st. The work here turned out ranges from fire escapes, standpipes and iron beams to small castings and forgings.

Mr. Johnston belongs to the Masonic order and to the National Union.

In 1887 Mr. Johnston was married to Miss Sophia Nelson, also from Vermland. They have a son and a daughter. The family residence is at 3023 N. Ashland avenue.

CHARLES F. ERIKSON,

publisher of *Svenska Tribunen-Nyheter*, was born March 6, 1866, in Vestergötland, Sweden. He came to the United States in 1887, making his home in Marinette, Wis., for a time. From there he came to Chicago and was employed as advertising solicitor of *Skandia*, a Swedish daily published at that time. In 1891–92 he was an employee of the Chicago *Herald*. Going to Omaha, Neb., he engaged in politics there, was nominated for city comptroller on the Democratic ticket and defeated by the narrow margin of a few hundred votes.

In 1897 he attended the Stock-



CHARLES F. ERIKSON

holm Exposition as special commissioner in behalf of the management of the Trans-Mississippi Exposition, which was to take place at Omaha the following year. While at Omaha Mr. Erikson conducted a newspaper advertising agency.

Returning to Chicago in 1899, he became advertising manager of *Svenska Tribunen*, and when this paper was sold in 1900 to John E. Norling and Samuel E. Carlsson he secured a like position with *Svenska Nyheter*. In May, 1905, he purchased the first-named paper and in July of the following year it was consolidated with the latter, which was named *Svenska Tribunen-Nyheter*. Since March, 1907, Mr. Erikson has been sole proprietor of the paper, which is said to have the largest clientele

of any Swedish weekly in the world.

Mr. Erikson is a member of the Swedish Glee Club, the Chicago Advertising Association and the Illinois Athletic Club. He is a Knight Templar, a Noble of the Mystic Shrine, a member of Medinah Temple of Chicago and of Chicago, of King Oscar Lodge A. F. and A. M., and affiliates with several other Masonic organizations.

Feb. 27, 1895 Mr. Erikson was married to Miss Selma Dahlstrom of Omaha. They have three children, two sons and a daughter.

LUTHER P. FRIESTEDT

is a typical Chicagoan. He was born April 30, 1860, at Watertown, Wis., of Swedish parents, and was brought here by them in 1861, since which time Chicago has been his residence. Beginning his education at the old Skinner School, he continued his studies until graduated from the old Washington High School. At the age of sixteen he went on a farm near Wheaton, Ill., where he remained until he attained his majority, attending Wheaton College during the winter months and giving particular attention to civil and mechanical engineering.

Shortly after his twenty-first birthday Friestedt arranged to go to Oregon for the purpose of engaging in the cattle business, but while in Chicago purchasing his outfit he was asked by Robert McAuley, a house raiser and mover, to assist him in raising a building, a small brick structure in Indiana street. In this work he applied his engineering theories to such advantage that McAuley insisted that he enter his employ, promising him a partnership at the end of the year. Friestedt accepted his offer, abandoned his western trip and buckled down to work. McAuley's business prospered and within six months Friestedt was taken into partnership, the firm being called McAuley & Friestedt. At the end of a year the junior partner embarked in business for himself as L. P. Friestedt & Co. The firm is still in business, the largest of its kind in the world.

A rapidly increasing business was Friestedt's portion, but it was not until 1893 that he sprang to the front rank as an engineer. During that year he was awarded a contract for $100,000, engaging to clear the right of way of the Metropolitan Elevated Railway Company from Western ave. to Halsted st., salvaging all buildings and holding the company harmless. It was his work on the Normandie apartment building during this time that brought him prominently to the fore. This granite front, three-story structure, 100 by 75 feet, faced Laflin street. To enable the elevated road to properly extend its tracks it was necessary to raise and back this building and then turn it around so that it would face on Van Buren st. This work Friestedt accomplished, and the work

was visited by government engineers and commissioners from different countries, resulting finally in his being engaged by the Austro-Hungarian government to undertake a series of works in Budapest, which firmly established his fame as an engineer.

It was in 1896 that the Austro-Hungarian government appointed a commission to consider the possibility of widening the thoroughfare in Budapest, intersected by the Danube River, in order that a cantilever bridge might be constructed. The commission decided upon Friestedt, and he was awarded a contract to widen Louis Kossuth boulevard 22 meters, or 73.26 feet. In the prosecution of this undertaking it was necessary for him to move the Drear Palais, a new structure of stone and concrete costing 1,500,000 florins, a distance of seventy feet. This he did without accident. A church, built in the twelfth century, was successfully moved, as well as five government buildings, and all this was accomplished without disaster.

During the three years required for the work Mr. Friestedt spent much time in Budapest, was registered under the law as a business man, carried a cash balance in bank of 200,000 florins and employed thousands of laborers. He afterward executed several commissions for the Archduke Joseph and operated in Austria-Hungary as the Friestedt Company of Budapest for a time.

While the L. P. Friestedt Co. of Chicago is the headquarters of Mr. Friestedt, he is largely engaged in other activities. He is heavily interested in the Friestedt Interlocking Channel Bar Company, which makes an interlocking steel piling of his invention, and it is used by all railways and governments of the world. The company has executed immense contracts in the harbor of Nagasaki, Japan, and at the Mersey docks of Liverpool. He is a stockholder in the Columbia Tool Steel Company of Chicago Heights, in the British Steel Piling Company of London, and owns real estate in almost every part of Chicago. His fortune is estimated at six figures.

Mr. Friestedt was a member of the commission appointed by the sanitary district of Chicago, the city and the government to estimate the cost of deepening and widening the Chicago River so as to meet the requirements of the projected ship canal.

In 1902 Mr. Friestedt was elected to the city council as an alderman from the Thirteenth ward by the largest majority ever given in that ward, and was re-elected in 1903. He resigned in 1905, owing to the demands upon his time by his business interests.

In 1906 Mr. Friestedt waged the hottest kind of a fight with Congressman William Lorimer for the Republican nomination for representative in congress from the sixth district of Illinois, and was defeated by a small margin at the primary election.

In religion Mr. Friestedt is an

Episcopalian and a member of St. Andrew's Church. His fraternal affiliations include membership in the Masonic order, he being a member of Union Park Lodge, York Chapter, Chicago Commandery and Medinah Temple. He is a Knight of Pythias, a Son of the American Revolution and his list list of clubs includes the Menoken, Chicago Athletic, Chicago Automobile, Horican Gun, Eagle River Fishing and Hunting. He is a member of the Western Society of Engineers.

When he was 22 Mr. Friestedt married Dora M. Huyer of Chicago. To them have been born five sons: Arthur, George, Herman, Luther and Willis. The three eldest boys are associated with their father in business, and all live at the homestead at 170 Central Park ave.

ANDREW L. ANDERSON,

who was a man of prominence in Henry county before removing to Chicago a few years ago, was born in Vestergötland, Sweden, Oct. 26, 1842. He grew up and obtained his essential education in the place of his birth. In 1860 he emigrated to America, making a nine weeks' voyage on board a sailing vessel. After reaching the port of New York, he proceeded to Geneseo, and from there to the township of Andover, where he worked on a farm through the summer and attended school the following winter.

In January, 1862, the young newcomer enlisted for military service in Battery H, First Illinois Light Artillery. After eighteen months of actual service in the



ANDREW L. ANDERSON

field he received honorable discharge for disability. Returning home, he passed some months in recruiting his strength, putting in most of the time at school, perfecting his knowledge of the English language. As soon as his health permitted, he went to work for Mr. P. P. Allen, remaining in his employ for seven years, the first two or three years as a farmhand and afterward in the capacity of buyer of stock—cattle, horses and sheep,—spending one year in Missouri for that purpose.

Subsequently, Mr. Anderson rented land until 1880, when he bought a farm in Munson township, devoting himself successfully to farming and stockraising there for many years.

In public affairs locally and nationally Mr. Anderson has taken

a deep interest. In 1872 he vigorously opposed the movement headed by Capt. Eric Johnson and Jonas W. Olson to round up the Swedish voters of Henry county for Greeley, and at that juncture organized the Swedish-American Republican club of the county.

Prior to 1885 he served as assessor for two terms and for several years as a school director. In time he acquired a dominant influence in county politics, was entrusted with the county treasurership and held various other offices within the gift of his constituents. He did much to gain for the people of his nationality due recognition in county affairs. Mr. Anderson was one of the active organizers of the Swedish-American Republican League of Illinois and served as its treasurer during the preliminary period and for the first two regular terms of one year.

Having retired from agricultural pursuits and politics, Mr. Anderson in 1903 removed to Chicago and owns a home at 6505 Green st., Englewood.

March 16, 1871, Mr. Anderson was married to Miss Amanda Wallin, a member of a well-known family, most of whose members are living in Iowa. To the Andersons have been born eight children: Hilda H., Alvin E., deceased, John Albert, Eugenia L., James Elmer and Andrew Wendell, deceased, George A. and Gilbert C.

HENRY STRUVE

was born in Kristianstad, Skåne, Dec. 9, 1857. His parents were



HENRY STRUVE

the military surgeon Henry Struve and Dorothea Struve. After having passed through four classes of the local collegiate school he obtained a position as clerk in Hjalmar Möller's bookstore in Kristianstad, remaining there eleven years.

Mr. Struve emigrated in 1887 and came at once to Chicago. For a number of years he has been in the employ of the Engberg-Holmberg Publishing Co.

He is a member of the Skåne Provincial Lodge of A. F. and A. M. in Sweden and also of Lodge No. 1, I. O. S.

ANTON C. ENGBERG

was born May 20, 1877, in Chicago, and is the son of John J. and Marie S. Engberg. He was

educated in the public schools and at the Metropolitan Business College, where he completed a course in bookkeeping.



ANTON CARL ENGBERG

Learning the printers' trade, he has worked in various offices in the city. For a number of years he has been employed at the establishment of the Engberg-Holmberg Publishing Company.

Mr. Engberg is a member of the Twenty-Third Ward Republican Club and resides at 458 Cleveland ave.

JOHN J. ENGBERG

was born in Bergsjö, Norra Helsingland, one of the most beautiful spots in the kingdom of Sweden, Jan. 8, 1846. His father, Jonas (Jonson) Engberg—a farmer and, in fact, a carpenter and a blacksmith, as he performed all such work required on the farm—became weary of paying fines for being a dissenter or separatist, and decided to seek a home in the land where religious liberty prevails. In 1856 he crossed the Atlantic and settled in Goodhue county, Minn. The following year the son, John, who had acquired an education in the old home public school and in a separatist school under the tuition of Rev. Peter Beckman, commenced learning the printer's trade, "the black art," as it was formerly called, on *Minnesota - Posten*, a Swedish weekly, published in Red Wing by his cousin, Rev. Eric Norelius, and his eldest brother, Jonas Engberg. Aug. 8, 1858, the mother, Brita, née Larson, accidentally lost her life in crossing Cannon River on her way to



JOHN J. ENGBERG

church, the father passing away in 1862. That same year the youth journeyed back to Chicago and had a year's schooling with Prof. L. P. Esbjörn, the founder of Augustana Theological Semi-

nary, at that time located in Chicago. In November, 1863, he enlisted in the 89th Ill. Vol. Inf'try, Co. D, and took part in General Sherman's operations in Tennessee and Georgia. Having successfully "dodged the bullets" for one year at the front, as he expresses it, sickness laid him low, and upon convalescing later in the fall of 1864, he was transferred first to the 59th Ill. and a short time afterward to the 8th Regt. Veteran Reserve Corps at Camp Douglas, Chicago, where he served guarding rebel prisoners, until mustered out after the close of the Civil War in the fall of 1865. Since then he has mostly been employed as a "type-sticker" in different parts of the Western states, occasionally doing a little writing for newspapers here and there. He was among the thousands who in 1871 lost their all of worldly possessions in the Chicago fire in that year. In 1872 he added the knowledge of music type setting to his craft. At present he is "setting up" books and music for the Engberg-Holmberg Publishing Company.

J. J. Engberg is affiliated with the Swedish Typographical Union No. 247, of which he was the first president, the North Star Lodge No. 2393 Knights of Honor, in which he served as president for several terms, and is also a member of the grand lodge of that order, and of the G. A. R.

Nov. 7, 1868, Mr. Engberg was united in marriage to Marie S. Ågren from Kristianstad, Sweden, the issue of the union being nine children, six of whom survive, namely: Axel Rudolph, Mrs. Rose E. Spoor, Alma B., Anton C., Ruth E. and Walter L. Engberg.

ERNST W. OLSON

was born March 16, 1870, in Finja parish, Skåne, Sweden.



ERNST WILHELM OLSON

His parents were Johannes Olson (deceased) and Johanna Olson, née Grahn. There are eleven children in the family, and it was chiefly on their account that the father, although a well-to-do farmer, determined to emigrate to the country whose name stands for opportunity. The family came over in May, 1878, and located on a farm near Wahoo, Neb.

When in the fall of 1883 Luther Academy was opened at Wahoo, Ernst was one of the first half dozen students enrolled. He continued his studies at Augustana

College, Rock Island, graduating with the class of '91.

With some experience in editing college papers, including *Censor*, *Balder* and the *Lyceum Annual*, he took a position with the weekly *Fosterlandet* of Chicago shortly after leaving college. One year afterward he returned to Rock Island to edit the English monthly *Observer*, and later became editor of the Swedish weekly *Nya Pressen* of Moline, handling the two papers simultaneously for a time. He was one of three persons who purchased the latter paper in January, 1894, and published it at Moline for the next three years. The plant was removed to Chicago early in 1896 and two editions were published, one for each city. In December, 1896, a consolidation with *Fosterlandet* was effected, and Mr. Olson became editor of that paper, also acquiring an interest in the plant. In 1900, when the paper passed under the control of the publishers of *Svenska Tribunen*, he was given editorial charge of both. He remained editor-in-chief of *Tribunen* until 1905, when a change in ownership and policy caused his retirement. Save for occasional news stories contributed to the *Record-Herald* of Chicago, the illustrated weekly *Hvar 8 Dag* of Göteborg, and other journals, he has since been out of the field of journalism from choice, having declined offers from several Swedish newspapers, and has devoted his time to editorial work for the Engberg - Holmberg Publishing Company.

Besides writing original verse, Mr. Olson has turned a number of poetic masterpieces from Swedish into English, and vice versa. Among his translations may be mentioned "Angelika," by Malmström, and a portion of Tegnér's "Frithiof's Saga." Competitive prizes were won by him for a college song, dedicated to his Alma Mater, and for a short story, submitted to the *Ram's Horn*. To Bethany College he is indebted for the honorary degree of A. M.

Mr. Olson's marriage to Miss Anna Strand of Des Moines, Ia., took place Dec. 20, 1899. Their children are: Eugene Wilfred Irving, born 1901, Adele Eugenia, 1903, Eunice Elizabeth, 1905, and Herbert William Leroy, 1907. Mrs. Olson is a graduate of the Augustana Conservatory of Music.

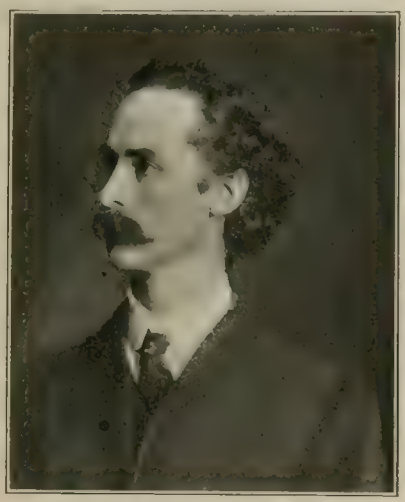
The family attend the Gethsemane Swedish Lutheran Church, Mr. Olson at present serving as its secretary and chairman of its board of trustees. He is secretary of the Western Oregon Orchard Company and member of the Swedish Historical Society of America.

OSCAR ENGBERG,

in point of years of service the oldest Swedish - American book publisher and bookseller, was born Dec. 6, 1863, in the parsonage of the Immanuel Swedish Lutheran Church, Chicago, which at that time, together with the church, was located on Superior st., between Wells st. and La Salle ave., on the site now occupied by the Pas-

savant Memorial Hospital. He has ever since had his name on the rolls of this congregation.

After attending parochial and public schools as well as studying privately, young Engberg passed an apprenticeship of several years' duration in the printing office of Engberg & Holmberg, thereby laying the foundation for the general knowledge of publishing in



OSCAR ENGBERG

its various branches which he possesses.

Having served as salesman with the same firm for several years, Mr. Engberg was placed in charge of a branch established in St. Paul, Minn., in the fall of 1881, remaining there for six years, when he returned to the parent establishment in Chicago.

Since 1887 Mr. Engberg has been secretary of the Engberg-Holmberg Publishing Co. As he has made a study of the business and his memory is excellent, his head is crammed with knowledge of book titles and prices as well as names of authors and publishers. Being exceedingly fond of reading, he has "devoured" volumes innumerable.

During his thirty years of service in the book business he has made the acquaintance of residents throughout the northern half of the states. He has the reputation of being an energetic, indefatigable toiler. Mr. Engberg has edited a number of publications, and under a nom de plume made occasional contributions to the Swedish-American press, in verse form.

Nov. 24, 1885, Mr. Engberg was married to Anna Christian of Winona, Minn., born March 19, 1864. They have a daughter, Helen, born June 3, 1887. For the past fifteen years they have been residents of Ravenswood.

JOSEPH G. SHELDON

was born July 29, 1868, in Karlskrona, Sweden, where his father was cashier of the state penitentiary. He went to private school at the age of five years and continued there until he was nine years old. In January, 1878, he began to attend the elementary school, where he remained until the summer of 1884, when he was a member of the seventh class. His father having died two years previously, young Sheldon, accompanied by his mother, emigrated to America. He came to Chicago in August, 1884, and has since resided here. He soon obtained

employment with A. H. Andrews & Co., manufacturers of school furniture, and remained with this firm until 1886. In the fall of that year he commenced work as a dry goods clerk, and continued in that vocation until January, 1889, when he took a course in bookkeeping at the Metropolitan Business College. After having



JOSEPH GILBERT SHELDON

completed his course he obtained employment as a bookkeeper, and in February, 1891, secured a position as receiving teller and general bookkeeper in the Dime Savings Bank, where he remained until the summer of 1895. In the fall of that year he matriculated with the Northwestern University Law School, from which he graduated in June, 1897, at the head of a class of eighty. He secured the scholarship prize, consisting of a series of thirty volumes of law. He has since practiced law in the state and federal courts with marked success.

In April, 1902, he was appointed a justice of the peace to succeed Chas. H. Hoglund, deceased, and served in that capacity until December, 1906, when that office was abolished, and he then resumed the practice of law.

Mr. Sheldon became a member of Svithiod Lodge No. 1, I. O. S., in 1898, was elected chairman of the lodge in January, 1900, and chairman of the grand lodge in 1906, being reelected in 1907.

Since 1907, Mr. Sheldon is president of the Engberg-Holmberg Publishing Company. He was in 1908 elected secretary of the Swedish Historical Society of America.

Mr. Sheldon is known as a fluent speaker in both Swedish and English and has appeared as orator on many public occasions.

Mr. Sheldon traces his ancestry back to Bishop Gilbert Sheldon, who was Dean of the University of Oxford in the early part of the seventeenth century and who donated the funds necessary to erect the Sheldonian Theater at Oxford, which is still in existence. In consideration of this gift, his lineal descendants are entitled to a free education at the University of Oxford. The sons of Bishop Sheldon were adherents of Charles I., and hence were forced to flee the country after Cromwell's accession to power. All but two went to America. Gilbert and Francis in 1650 found a home in Sweden, where they followed their trade, that of ship builders.

Francis never married. Gilbert's descendants up to the present generation have, with few exceptions, also been ship builders and taken a prominent part in building the Swedish navy. Gilbert's son, Charles Sheldon, was born Sept. 29, 1666, and died Aug. 10, 1739. His son, Gilbert Sheldon, was born Feb 21, 1710, in Karlskrona, where the family resided until 1884. He died April 20, 1794. Both he and his father were chiefs of construction in the Swedish navy. Although the family was numerous at one time, the only male representatives of the present generation are Joseph G. and his elder brother, Adolf Ulric Sheldon, a retired ship builder, now residing in Schloss Randegg, Baden. There are no Sheldons in Sweden at the present time.

On Aug. 20, 1903, Mr. Sheldon was united in marriage with Sigrid Engberg, daughter of the late Jonas Engberg.

MARTIN J. ENGBERG

was born Sept. 4, 1872, in Chicago. His parents were Jonas and Elizabeth Engberg. He was graduated from the North Division High School in 1889, and then spent a year in the Engberg-Holmberg Pub. Co.'s office. In the fall of 1890 he entered the University of Illinois, taking a scientific course, and making a specialty of chemistry.

Graduating in 1894 with the degree Bachelor of Science, he was a technical chemist for several years. Since 1900 he has been identified with the Engberg-Holmberg Publishing Co. in the capacity of treasurer. He is one of the editors of this work and has uncovered some historical material before unknown to Swedish-American annals. He was for some years actively identified with several Swedish musical organizations.

Mr. Engberg is a member of the Swedish Historical Society of



MARTIN J. ENGBERG

America, the Illinois State Historical Society and of the Illinois Academy of Science.

On Aug. 17, 1904, Mr. Engberg was united in marriage with Elizabeth Hoffsten of Philadelphia, Pa. Mrs. Engberg is the daughter of Aaron and Sophie Hoffsten, and was born Nov. 4, 1873, at Wilkesbarre, Pa. She graduated from the Girls' High School in Philadelphia in 1891 and later from the Girls' Normal School and has taken special studies in the University of Pennsylvania. Miss Hoffsten was a teacher in the

Robert Morris School in Philadelphia for several years.

Since coming to Chicago, Mrs. Engberg has compiled a Swedish



ELIZABETH HOFFSTEN ENGBERG

primer entitled, "Min första läsebok," which is founded on the most advanced American pedagogical thought, coupled with many new ideas devised for the book. It has cast aside the traditional methods heretofore used in the Swedish primers both in Sweden and this country.

Mr. and Mrs. Engberg are members of the Immanuel Swedish Lutheran Church. They have two sons, Robert Martin, born Jan. 17, 1906, and Paul Richard Hoffsten, born Aug. 20, 1908.

CARL B. F. BERGQUIST

was born Feb. 12, 1874, in Chicago. He is the eldest son of Carl O. and Wendla A. Bergquist. After finishing his public school course, he engaged in the real estate and insurance business, eventually entering into partnership with his father and younger brother, Hjalmar, under the firm title of Carl O. Bergquist and Sons.

In 1902 he removed to Encampment, Wyo., where he is growing up with the country. Mr. Bergquist is connected with a number of mining companies operating in the camp. He is vice-president and general manager of the Wyoming Finance Co., president of the Big Butte Copper Co., and secretary and treasurer of The Investors Mining and Prospecting Co. The property of the company last named is at Rambler, Wyo.,



CARL B. F. BERGQUIST

near the Doane-Rambler and the Ferris-Haggerty mines.

Mr. Bergquist is further identified with several of Encampment's industries and activities.

EOS HEGSTROM

was born Jan. 7, 1854, in Bergsjö, Helsingland, Sweden, where his father was school teacher and



EOS HEGSTROM

parish clerk. He came to America in 1869 and spent the first two years in Andover and Victoria, Ill., where he attended school.

In the spring of 1872 he entered the employ of the Swedish Lutheran Publication Society in Chicago. When *Hemlandet* was sold to Enander and Bohman in 1873, he became their accountant, remaining in this capacity for nine years. In 1882 he went to Anoka, Minn., where he spent two years in the mercantile business of O. Norell. He entered, in 1884, the banking house of Haugan and Lindgren, later styled the State Bank of Chicago, and remained with the bank twenty years. Mr. Hegstrom was one of the promoters of the Union Bank of Chicago which was organized in the spring of 1905 and has been vice-president from the start. On July 16, 1908, the bank had a capital stock and surplus of $225,000.00 and deposits amounting to $818,288.18. Mr. Hegstrom is at the head of the real estate loan department and is one of the expert real estate valuators of the city.

Mr. Hegstrom is not married. He is a member of the Elim Swedish Lutheran Church of Pullman.

V. HARALD HEGSTROM,

pastor of the Augustana Swedish Lutheran Church in Hyde Park, was born Jan. 11, 1869, in Bergsjö, Sweden, where his father, Erik Högström, was a teacher and parish clerk. The son attend-



V. HARALD HEGSTROM

ed public school and enjoyed private instruction in Sweden. Not long after his immigration to this country in 1884, he was enrolled as a student at Augustana Col-

lege, where he studied from 1885 to 1890, graduating the latter year with the bachelor's degree. Mr. Hegstrom next pursued postgraduate studies at Yale 1890–91 and '92–94, whereby he earned the degree of Ph. D. He continued higher studies at Columbia University, New York, 1895–97, was a non-resident student of Chicago University 1902–03 and a resident student for four quarters, 1903–04.

In 1892 Dr. Hegstrom took a position as teacher at Upsala College, Brooklyn. In 1898 he accepted a call to become president of Jewell College, Jewell, Ia., and remained at the head of that institution until 1903, when he exchanged the professor's chair for the pulpit, taking charge of the Augustana Church in Chicago as acting pastor. Having completed a divinity course at Augustana Theological Seminary in 1905–06, Dr. Hegstrom was graduated with the degree of B. D. and subsequently ordained to the ministry. In the Augustana Church, which he still serves, he has laid down great effort in securing a $20,000 church as well as in the inner upbuilding of the congregation. Dr. Hegstrom is a director of the Chicago Inner Mission Society.

June 1, 1898, Dr. Hegstrom was married to Ada Matilda Swanson, born July 11, 1877, the daughter of S. A. and Betty Swanson of Des Moines, Ia. Of three children born to them, two are living: Harald Eugene, born Aug. 8, 1901, and Ada Inez Sarah Dorothea, born Feb. 22, 1904.

FRANK L. HELANDER

was born in Sjötofta, Elfsborgs län, Sweden, June 29, 1870, and emigrated to America in 1886, coming to Chicago, where he has resided ever since. He first secured employment in the Rock



FRANK L. HELANDER

Island railroad shops, where he worked for three years. He then worked for several clothing firms, staying with one firm six years, in the same place that he now occupies for his own business, at 5122 Wentworth ave. In 1897 he opened a clothing and men's furnishing house, and has succeeded well.

Mr. Helander is a Lutheran by faith. He is a member of the Linné Society, Runan Lodge, I. O. V., Court Stockholm No. 16, Foresters of America, the John Eriesson Lodge No. 301, I. O. O. F., the Mystic Star Lodge No. 758, A. F. and A. M., the Ori-

ental Consistory, S. P. R. S., and of the Medinah Temple, Mystic Shrine.

In 1894 Mr. Helander was married to Miss Clara Johnson of Chicago, and they have established a pleasant home. Their children are: Alice, Mabel, Clara and Frank.

AUGUSTA SOFIA KHEIRALLA was born Jan. 21, 1854, in Finland, near the city of Vasa. At the age of ten years she began her studies at a girls' seminary in Vasa, from which she graduated in 1870. The same year she emigrated to America, taking up her residence in Chicago. In the year 1888 she began the study of medicine, graduating from the Hahnemann Medical College in 1892. Later on she took up a course of study at the Harvey Medical College, from which she graduated in 1896. She practiced her profession in the city of Chicago until 1904, when she was married to Dr. Ibrahim G. Kheiralla, a Syrian scholar.

Mrs. Kheiralla is a sister of the late C. G. Linderborg, formerly editor and publisher of *Svenska Tribunen*.



AUGUSTA SOFIA KHEIRALLA

JOHN H. ROSBERG was born in Reslöf parish, near Malmö, Skåne, Nov. 23, 1856. He was apprenticed at the age of sixteen to one Plantin, a cabinet-maker in Malmö, and became a journeyman in 1877. After working in Copenhagen for a year and in Stockholm for four years he emigrated to this country in 1882. After a short stay in Bridgeport, Conn., he came to Chicago, and after working for various firms, he entered in 1885 into partnership with Hans Jessen and started a cabinet-maker's shop in Jefferson st. A later shop having burned



JOHN HENRY ROSBERG

in 1901, they moved to their present quarters at 405 W. Kinzie st., where they occupy six floors and employ about ninety workmen. Jessen & Rosberg make benches and cabinets for dentists, watchmakers' benches and the like. Mr. Jessen having died in 1902, Mr. Rosberg is now sole proprietor, having purchased his partner's interest in the business.

Mr. Rosberg is a member of King Oscar Lodge No. 855, A. F. and A. M., Oriental Consistory, Washington Chapter No. 43, Columbia Commandery No. 63, and is a Noble of the Mystic Shrine as member of Medinah Temple, of Atlas Lodge No. 261, I. O. O. F., and of Svithiod Lodge No. 1, I. O. S., of which he was treasurer for three years.

Mr. Rosberg was married in 1882 to Kerstin Holmgren from Arlöf, Skåne. They have six sons: Charles Henry, George August, Alfred Victor, Rudolf Waldemar, Harry Emil and Elmer Gustaf.

The home is at 1832 Humboldt boulevard.

AXEL LUDVIG HVASSMAN

was born in Habo parish, Vestergötland, Sweden on April 24, 1863. At an early age he moved to Jönköping and thence in 1881 to Stockholm. He was there engaged with Janson and Wallgren, court tailors. While in the capital he sang in choruses directed by Berg, Albert Lindström, Krueger and others. In 1886 Mr. Hvassman emigrated with Chicago as his goal. He there was employed with prominent tailoring firms like John and Henry Stevenson. Since 1896 he has had his own business. He is now established at 352–354 N. Clark st.

Ever since coming to Chicago Mr. Hvassman has been active in



AXEL LUDVIG HVASSMAN

Swedish musical circles. Choir leader at Lake View Swedish Mission Church 1890–93, he has held the same position twice each at the Tabernacle Swedish Mission Church and the North Side Swedish Mission Church. He has served continuously at the latter church since 1902. Besides leading the church choir, he directs the Asaph male chorus. In addition he is director of the Swedish Mission Festival Chorus, organized in 1892.

Mr. Hvassman was on Aug. 27, 1907 united in marriage with Alma Emma Elizabeth, born in Chicago, July 16, 1879 to Carl and Sarah Anderson. She is a

graduate of Hyde Park High School.

To Mr. and Mrs. Hvassman was born on July 4, 1908 a daughter.

SWEN LINDEROTH

was born Oct. 14, 1859, in Skåne, Sweden. The parents in 1860 moved near Eskilstuna, where the father became a farmer. Swen finished the course in the public school at the age of twelve years. Soon after, he was apprenticed to a wood-turner, but, treated cruelly by him, the lad was then made errand boy to a shoemaker. Tiring of this, he left Eskilstuna and went to Stockholm where he became a clerk. His evenings were devoted to study. At the age of seventeen he obtained a good position in a planing mill where houses were planned and manufactured ready for domestic and foreign shipment. Two years after, he became assistant superintendent in a planing mill in Eskilstuna. Returning to Stockholm he worked in an architect's office during the winter and in the different building trades during the summer, thereby gaining the all-round experience he would have attained in a technical school and at the same time earning his living. As junior partner of an architectural firm Linderoth engaged in his profession until the fall of 1884, when he left Sweden. Arriving at Chicago he had to grapple with new architectural methods and a new language. He made good progress, and in 1887 he was invited to become a member of the Illinois chapter of the American Institute of Architects. In 1891 a severe illness almost cost him his life. He was, in fact, given up for dead, but revived miraculously after the time for



SWEN LINDEROTH

his funeral had been set. He required nine months to recuperate. In the meantime his former good business was so badly conducted by his subordinates that he decided to abandon his profession.

Mr. Linderoth now essayed the manufacture of enameled brick, which had heretofore been imported from England at high prices. A factory was built at 52nd and Wallace sts., and men were engaged who had made a similar product abroad. After a Swedish, a German and an English superintendent had in turn failed in the attempt to produce enameled brick, the Linderoth Ceramic Co. was forced to the wall.

Mr. Linderoth sold his house, and, under the assignee, continued to experiment until he finally succeeded in producing a real enamel on clay. But being financially ruined, it was impossible for him to continue operations. A small shed was finally secured in Englewood, in which porcelain filter tubes were made. The demand for his product was so great that he soon occupied larger quarters. In 1900 a second factory was built. Two years later an addition was built and more ground purchased to provide for future extensions. The establishment is now incorporated as the Alhambra Ceramic Works, with Mr. Linderoth as its president. Among the products are enameled and glazed tile, terra cotta statuettes and placques, porcelain filter tubes and pottery for use in schools as drawing models; also underglaze decorated ware, as yet quite new in the United States. A ceramic school has been started in connection with the enterprise, in which art students are taught various branches of the potter's art, including the purely decorative branches as well as ceramic chemistry. Samples of their work was exhibited at the World's Exposition at St. Louis by the firm. When the ceramic school was to be started at the University of Illinois, Mr. Linderoth was offered the position of director, but declined the appointment.

His clients have persuaded him to again enter the professional field again, and he is now actively engaged in the practice of architecture.

Mr. Linderoth was married to Sophie Johnson in 1887 and his children are Ruby, Samuel, Irene and Edna. He is a member of ceramic, architectural, literary, and temperance societies. He has been major of the Swedish-American Guards and first vice-president of the Swedish National Association. Mr. Linderoth possesses marked ability as a writer and his contributions to technical and trade journals are many and valuable.

CHARLES JOHN ANDERSON

was born July 20, 1880, in the parish of Viby, Östergötland, Sweden, where his father, Anders Gustaf Peterson, was a carpenter. Up to his fifteenth year he received his training and education in his native place. Coming to this country in May, 1895, he worked on a farm near Oakland, Neb. four years, attending public school in winter. Going from there to Omaha, he took a two years' course at the Omaha Commercial College and then was in the employ of the Western Paper Co. in that city a short time before leaving for Chicago in 1901.

After being connected with the house of Carson, Pirie, Scott and Co. for a year, Mr. Anderson was engaged as advertising manager for *Hemmets Vän*, a Swedish illustrated magazine, which proved short-lived. He next held a sim-

ilar position with *Svenska Tribunen*, which he left Feb. 1, 1906, to engage in the printing business



CHARLES JOHN ANDERSON

on his own account. Embarrassed by lack of sufficient capital, he gave up the business and is now a member of the firm known as the Gorham Printing Company, besides handling advertising for several Swedish newspapers.

Mr. Anderson was married Aug. 26, 1903, to Mamie Johnson, daughter of Julius Johnson, born at Kiron, Ia., Aug. 6, 1880. Their home is brightened by the presence of their first born, a son, Vincent Gaylord.

MARTIN ANDERSON

was born Nov. 11, 1859, in Tanum parish, Bohuslän, Sweden. At the age of fourteen he went to Christiania where he learned the baker's trade from his uncle. After a period of five years he became a journeyman and then emigrated to this country, arriving in Chicago in 1880.

After working four years for a German baker, he formed a partnership with Hans Lystad, a comrade from his Christiania days. Their bakery was at 115 Sedgwick st., where they had a force of four men. Before long the business grew to such proportions that they moved to 296–298 E. Division st., where about fifty men are employed. Mr. Lystad died about 1901 and Mr. Anderson purchased his share in the business.

In 1890 Mr. Anderson was united in marriage with Emma Lystad, a sister of his partner.



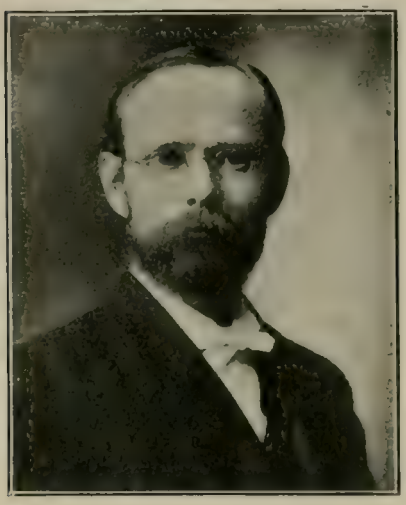
MARTIN ANDERSON

Mr. Anderson is a charter member of King Oscar Lodge of Masons.

AXEL MELLANDER

was born March 26, 1860, in Brönnestad, Skåne, Sweden, whence

his parents moved the year following to Mellby parish. At his tenth year he had to leave home



AXEL MELLANDER

and earn his own living. Converted at the age of fifteen years, he was enabled by the aid of Christian friends to study and then became a primary school teacher. Continuing his studies at the normal school in Lund 1877–78, he could not reconcile himself to the religious views taught there. He thereupon studied with private tutors in the same city until 1879 when he emigrated to America.

After having resided with relatives in Fremont, Ia., Mr. Mellander secured admittance the next year to the theological class in Ansgarius College at Knoxville, Ill. In 1881 he was ordained to the ministry in the Swedish Mission Covenant. Rev. Axel Mellander had pastorates in Lowell, Mass., in 1881, in Boston, 1882, in Frewsburg, N. Y., and Scandia, Pa., 1883. In the fall of 1884 he accepted a call to the Mission Friends congregation in North Easton, Mass. Two years later Rev. Mellander became editor of *Minneapolis Veckoblad*, a post he retained for three years. During 1889–92 he was pastor of the Iron Mountain, Mich., Mission Friends church. In the fall of 1892 he became a teacher in the Mission Covenant's theological school, then in Minneapolis. When the seminary removed to Chicago in 1894 and became North Park College, Prof. Mellander went with it and has since been one of the leading members of the faculty.

For several years he edited the covenant's newspaper *Missionären*, now defunct. In 1901 Professor Mellander traveled through southern Europe, Egypt and Palestine. The results of his observations and studies on that trip are laid down in a book, "Genom bibelns länder." Besides the above, he has written the following books and pamphlets: "Lifvet, döden och evigheten," "Profetskolorna i Israel," and "Betänkande i kongregationalistfrågan."

Rev. Axel Mellander was married Aug. 22, 1884, to Erika A. Garberg. They have had four children of whom one son, Enoch Theophilus, born 1890, survives.

HERMAN WILLIAM HANSON

was born on Tjörn, an island in the Kattegat, Bohuslän, Sweden, on May 7, 1847. His parents were Hans Anderson and Annika

Johansdotter. After studying the rudiments at public school, he went at the age of twelve years to Göteborg in order to earn his living. Four years later he went to Stockholm where he had a place in the office of his brother, a baker by trade.

In 1867 William emigrated to America and came to Chicago, where he learned the machinist's trade which he followed until 1872. Mr. Hanson opened a store where he sold sewing machines and tailors' trimmings, remaining in this business a quarter of a century. In 1899 he went into the real estate and insurance business, entering into partnership with Fred Anderson in 1904. He is now in business for himself at 1889 N. Clark st.

Mr. Hanson is a well-known man among the Mission Friends, having joined the North Side Mission Church in 1875. For the last seven years he has been a member of the Lake View Swedish Mission Church. He has been a member of the board of trustees of the Swedish Home of Mercy for three years. He is a stalwart Republican and was active in politics in the old 23d ward for fifteen years.

Mr. Hanson was married June 16, 1872, to Mathilda Gustafson, born Dec. 19, 1851, at Kilaberg, Östergötland, Sweden. They have been blessed with five children.

ERNEST GEORGE DAHL

was born Sept. 30, 1870, in the town of Halsberg, Nerike, Sweden, where his father, a mason contractor, is still living. When a boy he sold newspapers and periodicals after school hours, thereby earning enough money to pay his fare to the United States. He came to Chicago as a youth of sixteen, and was first employed



ERNEST GEORGE DAHL

as a rattan and reed worker. After four years he was given charge of a department of seventy workmen in the plant of the McKinley Manufacturing Company, Hoyne ave. and Van Buren st.

Shortly after the outbreak of the war with Spain, in May, 1898, Mr. Dahl enlisted in the Astor Battery of New York City. During the war he saw active service in the Philippines, participated in the capture of Manila, and served through the campaign until the battery was mustered out of service the following year. Upon his return and honorable

discharge he made a visit to his old home in Sweden.

From that time Mr. Dahl has been engaged as a commercial salesman, traveling through many of the leading states in the Union for three of the largest concerns in their line, including the Pacific Coast Borax Company. When this company some years ago sent its famous "twenty mule team" through the country on an advertising campaign, it was Mr. Dahl, who directed the movements of the unique expedition.

In 1899 he was the promoter and organizer of the Swedish American Veterans Association, which was chartered by the state, and for four successive years he was elected its commander. During the presidential campaign of 1900 he organized and was chosen captain of a company of Republican veterans of the Spanish-American war in a regiment organized by Gen. Ed. C. Young.

Mr. Dahl was married on Dec. 24, 1903. He is now conducting an office as a manufacturers' agent at 43 South Water st.

OSCAR G. OLSON

was born March 24, 1864, in Stockholm, Sweden. When he was two years of age his parents came to this country and settled in Chicago. The son received his early training here and subsequently a medical education in the Kentucky School of Medicine. Dr. Olson is now following the profession in Chicago where he has lived for the past fourteen years. He was county physician of North Chicago from 1894 to 1898 and has also been on the staff of the Swedish Mercy Hospital at Bowmanville. His office is at 3616 N. Clark st.

CARL LUNDBERG,

state senator from the eleventh district of Illinois, was born in Kalmar, Sweden, May 20, 1868. He was educated in the common schools in the city of his birth,



CARL LUNDBERG

and then learned the trade of carpentry. When eighteen years old, he came to Chicago from Sweden. Before long he became active in labor circles and joined the Carpenters' Union No. 28. Later he went into the real estate business in partnership with his brother, Gust. Lundberg, former county commissioner, and since the latter's death he has carried on the business alone. He is also

a director of the Englewood Building and Loan Association.

Mr. Lundberg has taken an active interest in politics and repeatedly been honored with public office. In 1896, when Republican success seemed hopeless in the town of Lake, he was nominated for supervisor and elected. As his acquaintance increased, he continued to grow in public favor, until in 1902 he was made the choice of his party for state senator, was elected by an overwhelming majority and is serving in that capacity with credit to himself and his party.

Mr. Lundberg is a member of the order of Odd Fellows, the Cook County Rebecca Society, the North American Union, the Iduna Society, the North Star, and the Masonic Order, being a thirty-second degree Mason. He also belongs to the Hamilton Club, the Englewood Men's Club and the Swedish-American Republican Club of his ward, of which latter he is the president. He lives at 5951 Sangamon st.

LOUIS J. LUNDAHL

was born in Moline, Ill., April 18, 1869, and spent his early youth in that vicinity. After finishing the studies offered by the public schools, he took a course at Augustana College in the adjacent city of Rock Island. At the age of seventeen he devoted himself to the trade of a painter and decorator, in which his brother, F. A. Lundahl, was already engaged. Accompanying his brother, he has assisted in decorating a large number of Swedish Lutheran churches throughout the United States.

Mr. Lundahl is a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, and also has a membership in the



LOUIS J. LUNDAHL

Modern Woodmen of America, the Improved Order of the Red Men, and the Royal League.

OLOF A. TOFFTEEN,

professor of Semitic Languages and Biblical Literature at the Western Theological Seminary, was born at Hexarfve, on the island of Gotland, June 26, 1863. Having finished at the common school, he entered the public college at Visby in 1881, completing the course in half the time usually required. In 1885 he took up university studies at Upsala and before long passed the preliminary examination in Semitic and Classical languages, philosophy and history, as a candidate for the doctor's

degree. After two years he interrupted his philosophical and theological studies by accepting a



OLOF A. TOFFTEEN

position as adjunct pastor at Hafdem, Gotland, and in 1888 left for the United States. He then entered Augustana Theological Seminary at Rock Island, but did not long remain there. He was ordained to the ministry of the American Episcopal Church in 1893, in Galesburg, Ill. The year prior he had assumed pastoral charge of and founded the Swedish Episcopal Churches of Minneapolis, where he labored for several years. At the state university, in the meantime, he continued his studies of oriental languages, issued several minor religious publications, a voluminous work entitled "Våra Fäders Kyrka" and "Myths and Bible."

In 1902 Rev. Toffteen came to Chicago and took up studies at the University of Chicago, while engaged in pastoral work. The degree of Ph. D. was conferred upon him in 1905 by that institution. The same summer he was elected professor of Semitic Languages and Biblical Literature at the Western Theological Seminary in Chicago, and the next summer he was appointed, in the absence of Robert Francis Harper, to conduct his classes in Assyriology at the University of Chicago.

There was published recently from the University of Chicago Press the first volume of a work by Dr. Toffteen, entitled, "Ancient Chronology" and also Volume V. of "Ancient Records of Egypt," both of which are scholarly results of the author's researches. He has this year published the first volume of a third orientalist work, "Researches in Assyrian and Babylonian Geography."

Dr. Toffteen is the founder of the Oriental Society, comprising seventy members, and is curator of the same. The Hibbard Egyptian Library, worth approximately $20,000, has been collected largely through his efforts, and at the seminary a post-graduate department has been established by him.

In the year 1891 Dr. Toffteen was married to Maria Nitilia Russell.

WILLIAM HENSCHEN,

editor of *Sändebudet*, was born April 11, 1842 in Upsala, Sweden. His parents were district administrator Lars Wilhelm Henschen and his wife Augusta Munck af Rosenschöld.

After several years of private instruction, he was entered at the cathedral school at Upsala in 1850. He graduated from the University of Upsala on Dec. 9, 1857, finished his doctorate studies in 1862, and, after a defense of his thesis in May, 1863, he was awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. Dr. Henschen subsequently pursued scientific and medical studies for three years at the universities of Upsala and Berlin. In 1866 he was appointed special teacher at the Lund collegiate institute and in 1867 he became an instructor in the Helsingborg collegiate institute.



WILLIAM HENSCHEN

Emigrating in September, 1870, to the United States, he settled in Florida. After two years he went to New York, where he became in October, 1873, editor of *Nordstjernan*. From June, 1874, until August, 1875, Dr. Henschen was editor and part owner of *Norden*.

Dr. Henschen joined the Methodist Church in the spring of 1875. The following September, the moved to Chicago. He now became a teacher in the Swedish M. E. Theological Seminary and also editor of *Sändebudet*, the church organ, serving in the latter position until September, 1882, when he resigned. A year later he withdrew from the seminary and became pastor of the Jamestown, N. Y., church. He passed the winter of 1884 in southern Florida. The next spring Dr. Henschen left for Sweden, where he labored as editor and teacher in Stockholm and Upsala until 1889. Returning to this country, he has ever since been editor of *Sändebudet*, with the exception of four years, when he was pastor of the Swedish M. E. Church at Galva, Ill.

Dr. Henschen was in 1868 united in marriage with Hilda Johanna Maria Liljebjörn. They have had eleven children, of whom the seven surviving ones are: Henry Samuel Henschen, cashier of the State Bank of Chicago, Gustave E. Henschen, a physician in Georgetown, Tex., Mrs. Signe Elizabeth Reese, Mrs. Ellen Augusta Herbert, Mrs. Hanna Linnea Grant, Agnes Lillian Henschen and Hilda Irene Henschen.

SAMUEL E. CARLSSON

was born Feb. 10, 1864, in Chicago. He is the younger son of Rev. Erland Carlsson and Eva Charlotta Carlsson, née Anderson. His mother, who came from Timmelhed, Sweden, in 1851, was married in 1855, and is still in

vigorous health. His father, of whom a sketch is given in this work, died Oct. 19, 1893.



SAMUEL E. CARLSSON

Samuel went to Andover in 1875 with his parents. After a preparation of three years he entered Augustana College in 1878. During the year 1881–82 he taught public school at Andover. Graduating in 1883, he continued as a post-graduate until the spring of 1884, when he moved to Lindsborg, Kansas. Here he served for a time as a bookkeeper at the First National Bank of Lindsborg, and then became assistant cashier and a stockholder in the Farmers' State Bank in the same town.

Mr. Carlsson in 1887 left for Chicago, where he was employed by the Pullman Company in the capacity of department chief in charge of bank, pay-roll and rent accounts. The following year he went to Rock Island, assisting his father in his work as business manager of Augustana College from January, 1888, until June, 1889. After a short visit to Lindsborg, he returned to Chicago, where from 1890–97 he held the same position as before with the Pullman Co.

Mr. Carlsson was married in 1888 to Mathilda M. Edberg. Mrs. Carlsson died July 10, 1897, in Chicago.

In 1898 Mr. Carlsson became a stockholder in *Fosterlandet* and also its manager. Two years later he, together with John E. Norling, bought *Svenska Tribunen* and became the president of the Swedish Pub. Co. In 1901 he sold his interests and engaged in the linotype composition business. Changing to the piano trade, he was the secretary and treasurer of the I. O. Nelson Piano Co., subsequently going to the Cable–Nelson Piano Co. in the capacity of manager.

Mr. Carlson is an enthusiast, who has been active in Swedish and other musical circles. He was the first director of the Augustana Orchestra (1880–84), the first director (1884) of the Lindsborg Orchestra, which subsequently became the Bethany College Orchestra, director of the Immanuel Church Orchestra, director of the Immanuel Church Choir 1890–98, and first violinist for three years in a string quartette. Mr. Carlsson is violinist of the Carlsson Trio, founded in 1907. Since the fall of 1904 he has been leader of the Rogers Park English Lutheran Church Choir. In 1907 he directed the choir's performance

of the cantata "Faith and Praise," by Caleb West. He is also leader of the Male Chorus of the Immanuel Swedish Lutheran Church.

On June 10, 1898, Mr. Carlsson was united in marriage with Pearl B. Lockwood, daughter of J. B. Curtis, a physician of Lindsborg. Mrs. Carlsson's children by a former marriage are: Lillian Minnie Carlsson, born Dec. 17, 1892, and Mary Maud Carlsson, born July 2, 1895. To Mr. and Mrs. Carlsson have been born Ethel Vivian Carlsson, May 8, 1901, and Edith Audrey Carlsson, June 23, 1907.

Mr. and Mrs. Carlsson are members of the English Evangelical Lutheran Church of Rogers Park.

ANDERS SCHÖN,

journalist, historian and biographer, was born Nov. 17, 1864, in Regnsjö parish, Gefleborgs län, Sweden. In both of his ancestral families there were military men for several generations back, some of whom were non commissioned officers in the Helsing regiment. On the father's side there were several teachers of the public schools. The great-grandfather, Johan Schön, fought with distinction in the battle of Oravais, Sept. 14, 1808, received a medal for bravery and was promoted sergeant. He died at a ripe old age in the early sixties. The parents were Jonas Schön, schoolmaster and organist, and his wife Margareta, née Westling. The son was reared in poverty, his father having died before the child was born. He was for some time unable to follow his studious bent, but managed ultimately to take a seminary course fitting him for teaching. In 1883 he obtained his first position as teacher in a primary school and three years



ANDERS SCHÖN

later was promoted to an advanced grade of the people's schools. On spare time he acted as extra clerk in the office of the länsman and as assistant teacher of an evening school for the study of political economy and civil government. About that time he became a contributor to the newspapers and served as local correspondent to *Norrlands-Posten* of Gefle. The clerkship gave him a taste for the public service, and to obtain the training required for the position of crown bailiff, or länsman, he entered the police service of Stockholm in 1887. He was promoted from extra officer to the regular service, but disliking the duties of a policeman, he shortly resigned.

The outlook for advancement either in the schools or in the government service being far from alluring, he abandoned both fields, determined to brave fortune in the New World and emigrated in the fall of 1889, reaching New York on the 22nd of September. During his first two years in the United States he was employed as a common laborer in various trades, often at meager wages, and was put to the test in the manner customary to emigrants. In the meantime he studied English and sought to familiarize himself with the country and the condition of his fellow countrymen here. His first impressions were described in a series of letters to *Svenska Tribunen*. He came to Chicago in July, 1891, and worked here for three months at physical labor, until accepting a situation on the staff of *Hemlandet*, offered him on the strength of certain contributions of his to the paper. He has been connected with this same paper since Oct. 28, 1891, and has been acting editor-in-chief since the spring of 1903, Dr. Enander remaining only nominally at the head of the editorial department after his physical disability.

As a newspaper man Mr. Schön is conservative. Alive to the responsibility resting on organs of public utterance, he avoids newspaper fights and aims to promote unity and enlightenment among his countrymen and teach them to conserve their interests and treasure their national heritage. He dares believe that the Swedes are destined to make a specific contribution to the cultural development of this nation.

Aside from his work on the paper, Mr. Schön has done extensive literary work, made possible only by husbanding his time and denying himself almost all social pleasures. In 1895 he made a Swedish translation of W. H. Harvey's famous campaign book, entitled "Coin's Financial School," and in 1897 he translated Frederick Davis Greene's work on the Turkish atrocities in Armenia, the Swedish title being "Korset och halfmånen." The same year he edited "Bilder från Gamla Hemlandet," a book of views of Sweden, the next year a book of Spanish-American war pictures, with descriptive text, and in 1900, "Panorama öfver Amerika," the three being published by the Hemlandet Company. He was one of the members of a literary society who originated the annual *Prärieblomman* and has edited a series of nine volumes of this publication, himself contributing several historical articles and a large number of biographies.

In the monthly *Ungdomsvännen*, of which Mr. Schön has been associate editor since 1900, appeared in 1901–3, in serial form, the first and second parts of his history of the New Sweden colony, under the caption: "Svenskarne i Delaware. De första svensk-amerikanernas politiska och kyrkliga historia samt deras seder och hemlif." This work Prof. George T. Flom of the State University of

Iowa has characterized as "the most thoroughgoing investigation of the later history of the colony that we have." Mr. Schön has a fair-sized Swedish-American historical collection. He has rendered valuable service as one of the compilers of the "History of the Swedes of Illinois." Mr. Schön was one of the organizers of the Swedish Historical Society of America and served as its secretary the first two years.

For six years, 1897-1903, he was a member of the executive committee of the Illinois Conference and served for three years, 1905–1908, on the board of directors of the conference orphanage at Joliet. In 1899 he was chosen one of the directors of the Augustana Book Concern and still serves by dint of successive reelections. He has served as secretary of the board since 1901. He was one of the Swedish-American members of the Swedish exposition committee which promoted the erection of Sweden's building at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition in St. Louis in 1904, and personally he raised $1,100 for the care and maintenance of said building. He has been elected honorary member of several societies.

On Nov. 12, 1892, Mr. Schön was married to Miss Anna Nilsson, a native of Vermland, Sweden. They have a daughter and two sons. One son died in infancy. The living children are: Inez Maria Eleonora, Einar Bengt Valdemar and Birger Erik Engelbrekt.

SIGNE ANKARFELT

was born at Hof, near the city of Vexiö, Sweden, April 5, 1858. The parents were Johan Olof Liedberg and his wife Louise, née Ruuth. As a young man her father came to this country in 1843, settling near Jefferson, Wisconsin, where he engaged in farm



SIGNE ANKARFELT

ing and lumbering, subsequently locating in New Orleans as a lumber merchant. In 1848 he joined a party bound for Oregon. In Utah they learned of the discovery of gold in California. The hardships of the journey caused them to abandon the original plan. After crossing the Sierras the party scattered, and Liedberg was one of the first to engage in "gold-picking," as it was first called, after the discovery of the precious metal had been reported. He returned to Sweden, via Panama, Cuba and Philadelphia, in 1852, but came back to this country in

1875 and located in Chicago, where he died in 1886.

The daughter Signe was given a thorough education from childhood. As a young girl she was thrown largely upon her own resources, owing to the financial reverses of her father. Resolved to become a teacher, she went to Germany and Switzerland for study. After two years spent mostly at a school in St. Blaise, Neuchatel, she went to Paris and thence to Rugby, England. Through the influence of friends she obtained a position as teacher, first at Boroughbridge and later at Helensburg, near Glasgow. Failing health compelled her to leave the rugged Scotch climate, and after some time spent in Switzerland and Italy and with friends in Sweden, she joined her parents in Chicago in July, 1882. After six years, she became the wife of F. W. Ankarfelt, a printer by trade, and then publisher of *Kurre*, a comic weekly.

While Mrs. Ankarfelt modestly disclaims the title of authoress, stating that she has done some writing for pastime rather than as a literary vocation, yet the products of her leisure hours betray talent of no inferior order. She has been a contributor to newspapers in Sweden, including *Idun*, the woman's journal, and to Swedish newspapers and periodicals in this country, chiefly *Prärieblomman*, *Valkyrian* and *Ungdomsvännen*. Her knowledge of English, first acquired during her residence in Great Britain, enables her to handle that language with skill in prose and verse. When the Linné monument was unveiled she wrote a festal ode upon which she was highly complimented in the press. Mrs. Ankarfelt has a profound love of nature, and this characteristic is revealed especially in her verses and in a number of fascinating prose sketches in fable and fairy-tale form. In *Prärieblomman* for 1906 there is an extremely interesting sketch by her of her father's adventures and experiences as a pioneer.

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HISTORY

OF THE

Swedes of Illinois

PART III

Biographical Sketches

WITH PORTRAITS

COUNTIES AT LARGE

Edited by

ERNST W. OLSON and MARTIN J. ENGBERG

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HENRY COUNTY

ANDOVER—CAMBRIDGE—GALVA—GENESEO—KEWANEE OPHIEM ORION—WOODHULL

CARL P. EDBLOM,

pastor of the Augustana Synod and now in charge of its church



CARL PETER EDBLOM

at Andover, was born at Stamåren, Dals Ed, Sweden, Sept. 14, 1862. His father, who was a farmer and miller, moved to Knipan and died there May 24, 1897, his mother, Kajsa Johansson, having gone before, on Sept. 9, 1891. His early schooling was obtained in the old country. In May, 1882, the young man of twenty landed as an immigrant at Philadelphia and proceeded to Minneapolis, where he lived for a year and a half At New Year's, 1884, he was matriculated as a student at Gustavus Adolphus College at St. Peter, Minn., graduating in May, 1891, with salutatorian honors with the college class. Thereupon he took up the study of theology at Augustana Theological Seminary, from which he graduated in the spring of 1893 as a candidate for the ministry. Upon being ordained shortly afterward, he began his pastoral labors in Aurora. In December, 1894, he removed to Escanaba, Mich., in May, 1898, to Batavia, and in January, 1906, to Andover, where he is now stationed.

While in Batavia, Rev. Edblom served on the board of the West Batavia public schools for six years. He has been for five years a member of the board of directors of the Illinois Conference Orphans' Home at Joliet and now at Andover Orphans' Home. Always a Republican, Rev. Edblom cast his first vote for James G. Blaine.

Rev. Edblom entered matrimony Jan. 1, 1895, the bride being Miss Anna Gustava Challman, daughter of Rev. Andrew Challman of Batavia. To Rev. and Mrs. Edblom have been born six children, five of whom survive, viz., Carl Gustav, born 1897, Esther Dorothy Charlotte, 1898, Andrew Theodore, 1901, David Rob-

ert, 1902, and Evelyn Elizabeth, 1904.

JOHN A. FAIR

was born Feb. 27, 1858, in Andover. He is a farmer, the son



JOHN AUGUST FAIR

of a farmer. His father, Gustaf Fair, one of the oldest settlers in Andover, having arrived there in 1854, was known as the "farmer poet," and contributed to some of the Augustana church papers. The son has inherited his father's taste for church work.

Mr. John August Fair belongs to the Swedish Lutheran Church and has served as a deacon for many years. He has also been organist of the church.

In local public affairs he is also active, having been a school trustee for a long time.

Mr. Fair is married to Miss Hulda Carlson. They have two children, Joseph Arnold and Lillian M.

FRANK O. SANDSTEN

was born Feb. 9, 1844, in Misterhult parish, Kalmar län, Sweden. He emigrated in 1867 and settled in Moline. During the past twenty-three years he has resided in Andover, Ill., and there has successfully engaged in the business of a building contractor. Other places in which he has done contract work are Woodward, Iowa, and Wayne, Neb. He has now retired.

Mr. F. O. Sandsten is the son of Samuel Sandsten, a farmer of Misterhult, and his wife, Catharina Sandsten. He has visited his old home once since his emigration.

Mr. Sandsten is a member of the Swedish Lutheran Church.



FRANK OSCAR SANDSTEN

He has served in the capacity of a justice of the peace of Andover.

VICTOR SETTERDAHL,

who was for many years pastor of the Swedish Lutheran Church



VICTOR SETTERDAHL

in Andover, was born in Oppby, Sweden, Jan. 20, 1844. His parents, M. Anderson and his wife Catharina Larson, were farmers. At twenty years of age, Mr. Setterdahl emigrated and lived for a year in Andover, then entered Augustana College and Theological Seminary at Paxton, studying there 1865–68 and 1870–73 and was graduated as a candidate for the ministry the year last named. After his ordination the same year he served as pastor of the Swedish Lutheran churches in Rock Island, Orion, Lockport and Joliet, before accepting a like charge in Andover. His longest terms of service have been at Orion, for ten years, and at Andover, for over seventeen years.

In the year 1905 Rev. Setterdahl resigned the Andover pastorate to assume charge of the church at Chesterton, Indiana.

May 5, 1874, Rev. Setterdahl was married to Miss Albertina Larson, of Swedona, Ill., a daughter of Gustaf and Catharina Larson, born March 16, 1853. They have a family of five children: Victor E., born May 30, 1875, married to Miss Edith Hanaway of Meadville, Pa., Etta C., born Oct. 2, 1877; Fred N., born Dec. 7, 1884; Violet E., born May 8, 1887, and Naomi C. A., born Aug. 5, 1889.

Rev. Setterdahl, during his long service as a minister of the Gospel in the Augustana Synod, has



ALBERTINA SETTERDAHL

been elected to various offices of honor and trust in the church.

JONAS M. ANDERSON

was born April 20, 1857, in Skepperstad parish, Småland. He came to this country in 1872 and settled on a farm in La Porte co., Ind.

In 1890 he went to Cambridge, Ill., where he engaged in business with the firm of H. M. Wier, at which place he still remains.

Mr. Anderson has received public recognition in Cambridge, having been chosen alderman, in which capacity he has served for many years. He is a director of the First National Bank of Cambridge and also a director of the Electric Light and Power Co. of the same place. He is likewise secretary of the Citizens' Mutual Telephone Co. For thirteen years the subject of this sketch has belonged to the Illinois National Guard, in which he has served as a lieutenant for three years in Co. D, 6th Regiment.

Mr. Jonas M. Anderson, son of Johannes Anderson, a farmer in Sweden, was married at Andover April 5, 1883, to Miss Mathilda Sophia Lyon, the daughter of Andrew Lyon, a farmer of Andover. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson have three children, Ivar T., Henry S. and Eva Elizabeth.

Mr. Anderson is a member of the I. O. O. F.

SVEN J. CHILBERG

was born Oct. 6, 1843, in Kisa, Sweden. When but a mere child of scarcely six years his parents, Nils M. and Margaret Elizabeth, emigrated to this country. Then, in 1849, the sea voyage was quite an undertaking, and their party required two months for the trip. The family was bound for the West and reached what is now known as Swedona by river, canal and wagon. They were the first Swedes to settle in Mercer co., Illinois.

Mr. Sven Chilberg received his early training in the county public



SVEN JACOB CHILBERG

schools. In the summer of 1861 he enlisted in Co. C, 43d Ill. Vol. Infantry, returned, and was discharged at Little Rock, Ark., Sept. 30, 1865, reaching home Christmas eve of the same year.

He was appointed postmaster at Cambridge by President Benjamin Harrison and served for four years. His present appointment as postmaster was made by President William McKinley.

He belongs to the Order of Masons, the G. A. R. and the A. O. U. W.

Mr. Chilberg married Miss Margaret Lafferty in 1870. Their daughter, Martha P., is assistant postmaster in Cambridge, and their son, Nelson Guy, is an artist with the Illinois Engraving Co. in Chicago.

NICHOLAS A. HAGG

was born Sept. 22, 1851, in Hjelmseryd, Småland, Sweden. He came



NICHOLAS A. HAGG

to this country in 1871 and settled in Henry co., Ill. His early training, received in the public school of his fatherland, was thorough, and hence he had a good foundation for prosperity in his adopted country. At present he successfully conducts a real estate and loan business, and is a member of the State Bank of Cambridge.

Mr. Hagg organized the first Swedish "marknad" or county fair held in Cambridge. He himself lives on a farm and owns much land to the south of Cambridge.

In politics Mr. Hagg is a Democrat and a strong believer in free trade. He belongs to many different societies.

JOHN L. HULL

was born Nov. 3, 1850, in Hultsfred, Sweden. He attended the public schools there. In 1869 he emigrated and settled in Cambridge, Ill. Shortly after his arrival in this country he began work in a brick and tile factory, which had recently been established. He soon became manager of the plant and in 1890 purchased a half interest in the business, which now continued under the firm name of Cook & Hull. In 1891 Mr. Hull became sole owner. From small beginnings and handpower, an engine of 80 horsepower and other improvements have been introduced. The product of the factory is superior and finds a ready market.

Mr. Hull is a member of the Swedish Lutheran Church, in



JOHN L. HULL

which he has served as trustee and treasurer for twenty years. He has held several positions of public trust: supervisor of Cambridge township for ten years; school director of the Public School

for the same period, and has served on the town and county committees of the Republican party for a number of years. At the present time he is vice-president of Cambridge State Bank and vice-president of Henry County Agricultural Board.

Oct. 12, 1875, Mr. Hull was married to Miss Josephine C. Lyons, born in America. Their four children are, Lettie V., Edwin C., Emeline S. and Ernest L.

Mr. Hull belongs to the I. O. O. F., the Mystic and Fraternal Tribune and North Star.

FRANK H. STREED

was born March 2, 1857, in Andover township. The parents are Sven P. Streed, a farmer in Andover township, and his wife Anna S. (Nelson) Streed. Frank remained at home as a farmer until 1890, when he went to Ulah. He there engaged in the grain business for thirteen years, after which he settled in Cambridge, Ill., was engaged by the New York Life Insurance Co. and became interested in the real estate business. He is also land and emigration agent of the C., R. I. and P. R. R. and a justice of the peace of Cambridge.

Mr. Streed belongs to the order of Odd Fellows.

He married Miss Julia Griffen, a daughter of Henry Griffen, a farmer of Andover township. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Streed are Henry G. and Eugene F.

NELS F. ANDERSON

was born Feb. 11, 1858, in Ystad, Sweden. He emigrated in November, 1872, and settled in Galesburg, Ill., where he attended Knox College from which he graduated in 1882. Some time was spent in Chicago, and in 1886 Mr. Nels Anderson was admitted to the bar at Ottawa, Ill. He is now one of the prominent lawyers of Galva and at present is city attorney of that place.

Mr. Anderson belongs to the Masonic lodge of Galva and the Kewanee Club of Kewanee, Illinois.

ALBERT ERIC BERGLAND

was born Nov. 9, 1869, in Henry co., Ill. The father, Jonas Bergland, emigrated with his own father, the Rev. Mr. Andrew Bergland, who was one of the first pioneers of the Bishop Hill Colony.

Mr. Albert Eric Bergland is a prominent lawyer of Galva. His professional training was received in Knox College, in Galesburg, and in the law department of the University of Maryland, from which he graduated in 1894.

On March 14, 1898, he was married to Miss Pearl Hendricks, daughter of Dr. William Hendricks, formerly of Galva. Their one child is Martha Helen.

Since his graduation in 1894, Mr. Bergland has been practicing law in Galva. He belongs to the Elks.

NELS AUGUST CARLSON

was born Dec. 22, 1863, near Ystad, Sweden. He emigrated in



NELS AUGUST CARLSON

1882 and immediately settled in Galva, Ill., where at present he is engaged as manager of a lumber yard. Besides his regular business he has many other interests, that of writing poetry being foremost. In 1893 he published a volume of poems entitled "Hoppets behag och andra dikter." Some years ago he secured prizes in a poetical contest instituted by Minneapolis *Veckoblad*.

Although Mr. Carlson has attended no school in this country, he has through indefatigable efforts so far mastered the English as to make successful translations from Swedish into English and vice versa. Among his translations is one of Thomas Campbell's "Pleasures of Hope."

Mr. Carlson is a member of I. O. O. F. Lodge and Valhalla Lodge No. 31, Independent Order of Svithiod, of which he is president since its organization, also of the Encampment and Rebekha branches of the I. O. O. F.

He has been town clerk of Galva township for four years and has been elected to the city council.

EBEN OSCAR ENGSTRAND

was born Nov. 17, 1867, in Monmouth, Ill. He is the son of J. M. Engstrand, a shoedealer in Galva. Mr. Eben Engstrand has steadily been gaining prominence, both in business and municipal affairs. He is now manager of the E. W. Houghton Lumber Yard Co. and has been city clerk of Galva for several years and village trustee for six years.

Mr. Eben Engstrand was married to Miss Jessie Arvidson, daughter of a retired farmer of Galva, on Sept. 15, 1892. Their two children are, Neal L. and Charles L.

Mr. Engstrand is a member of the Modern Woodmen.

JONAS M. ENGSTRAND

was born Feb. 15, 1841, in Tveta parish, Småland, Sweden. He enjoyed practically no schooling and in 1852, when his father, N. P. Anderson, died, the son was apprenticed to a shoemaker, to help earn a living for the family which was left almost destitute. He emigrated in 1864, reaching Castle Garden on Aug. 15, destined for Galesburg, Ill. He left a few days later for Blockfield,

Missouri, but soon returned to this state, settling permanently at Galva, in 1871, after living in turn at Galesburg and Monmouth.



JONAS MAGNUS ENGSTRAND

Since his arrival in this country Mr. Engstrand has been in the shoe business, meeting with success in a mercantile way, barring the misfortune of being burned out three different times.

Mr. Engstrand was married to Miss Anna Lundquist in 1867. Of their seven children but five survive: Eben Oscar, born 1867; Esther M., born 1873; Lillie O., born 1875; Annette, born 1883; and Ernest LeRoy, born 1887.

Mr. Engstrand figures prominently in church work. In the Swedish Lutheran congregation to which he belongs he acted as Sunday school superintendent and treasurer for years.

The son Eben Oscar was married to Miss Jessie Arvidson in 1892, the daughter Esther to Byron Kennedy in 1902, and the second daughter Lillie to L. W. Barlow in 1899.

JOHN A. LARSON,

secretary and treasurer of the Herdien Coal Company, Galva, Ill., was born in Frinnaryd parish, Småland, Sweden, Sept. 27, 1857. He came with his parents to America in 1868 and had the advantage of fifteen months instruction in the public schools of this country. He studied and mastered book-keeping and has held a position in the office of the aforesaid coal company since its organization in 1877.

He is an expert checker player, having won second prize in the



JOHN A. LARSON

state tournament at Decatur, Ill., in 1906.

In 1902 he was married to Miss Amelia Anderson. They have two daughters, Jennie Amelia and Eva Margaret

OSCAR WILLIAM LARSON

was born March 21, 1872, in Galva, Ill. He attended the pub-



OSCAR WILLIAM LARSON

lic schools in his home district. At present he is engaged in the manufacture of cigars. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias and M. W. A., and is a member of the city council of Galva.

OSCAR M. PETERSON,

born Oct. 30, 1871, in Galva, Ill., is the son of Olaf L. Peterson, a furniture dealer of Galva, and Betzie Hanson Peterson. He attended the public schools of Galva and the Metropolitan Business College of Chicago. At present he is bookkeeper with Wistrands Manufacturing Co. in Galva and is township clerk.

Mr. Oscar Peterson belongs to Odd Fellows and Modern Woodmen. He married Miss Anna Johnson and they have been blessed with three children: Florence, Joseph and Ada.

JOHN WILLIAMS

was born Aug. 15, 1862, in Dalsland. He emigrated in 1877 and



JOHN WILLIAMS

settled in Clinton, Iowa. His education was received in the public schools. Being of a practical turn of mind and possessing fine business ability Mr. Williams has been enabled to bring to a point of success the dry goods and clothing business of which he is the proprietor. He has one of the leading stores in that line in Galva.

In religious belief Mr. Williams is a Lutheran and is a member of I. O. O. F., K. of P., and M. W. of America.

VICTOR L. HEDMAN

was born in Östra Fernebo parish, Gestrikland, Sweden, March 10, 1861. He is the son of Jonas

Hedman, a smelter at the Gysinge Works. In 1880 he emigrated to America and settled in Henry



VICTOR L. HEDMAN

county, Ill., where he has since resided. Mr. Hedman attended the public schools of Sweden and spent two terms in the Collegiate Institute at Geneseo. By occupation he is a farmer, having spent the last eighteen years on a farm, but recently he has retired with the intention of going into the lumber business.

Mr. Hedman has large interests in land in Munson township and in Canada.

He was married March 13, 1888, to Miss Lovisa Wallin, daughter of Sven Wallin, from Kinneved parish, Vestergötland. Their two children are Hilda W. L., born May 5, 1889, and Harold W. E., born July 13, 1891.

The Swedish Lutheran Church of Geneseo has an invaluable member in Mr. Hedman. He has been a trustee and treasurer of the church for years. He is also a director of the Augustana Synodical Mission Board.

In municipal matters he has taken active part, serving as a school director for nine years and as road commissioner for six years.

GUNNER A. JOHNSON

was born May 7, 1863, in the city of Halmstad, Sweden. He emigrated in 1880, and soon after his arrival in America obtained employment near Geneseo as a farm hand. He worked on the farm three years, attending the village school during the winter months. In the fall of 1883 he began a



GUNNER A. JOHNSON

course of instruction in Prof. Waldo's school, after the completion of which he obtained a clerkship with the grocery firm of Green & Trauger of Geneseo, where he remained four years. Next Mr. Johnson was offered a position

with Diedrich & Lawrence, also in the grocery business. Here his energies made him invaluable to the firm, and after several changes he became a member of the well-known John Diedrich Co. He holds the position of vice-president. In 1900 a complete line of dry goods was added to the already large stock of groceries and queensware. More room was needed and accordingly an adjoining building was rented. The business was again enlarged in 1904 by the addition of a complete shoe department.

Mr. Johnson was married in Geneseo, Ill., June 3, 1887, to Miss Emma Engdahl, born Oct. 20, 1866. Of their four children but two survive: Aline Victoria Constance, born 1889, and Wendell Gunner, born 1901.

In politics Mr. Johnson is a Republican, in religion, a Lutheran. He and his family belong to the Swedish Lutheran Church, where he has served as a trustee since 1892.

Among the public-spirited men of Geneseo, Mr. Johnson is one of the foremost. He is ever ready to join in any movement calculated to be of public benefit. He is a member of the town central committee and of the public school board.

CARL J. LAGER,

son of John Lager and Maja Greta Swenson, was born in Lönsås parish, Sweden, April 23, 1854. He attended the people's school at Lönsås, then helped his father at tailoring and at seventeen years of age emigrated to America,



CARL J. LAGER

first settling in Princeton, Ill., afterward removing to Geneseo in 1875. Here on May 30, 1878, he married Miss Dora Larson, born Nov. 9, 1858. They have one child living, a daughter named Florence Ruth, born in 1891.

Mr. Lager is a clothing merchant, and head of the firm of Lager, Offerle & Co.

He is a Mason, a Knight Templar, an Odd Fellow, a Knight of Pythias and a Mystic Shriner. He holds the rank of Major in the Patriarchs Militant and has received the grand decoration of chivalry in the order. Mr. Lager is connected with the Unitarian Church, in which body he serves as treasurer. Politically he is a Democrat.

PETER A. LARSON

was born Aug. 3, 1863, in Frödinge parish, Småland, Sweden. Since his emigration to America



PETER A. LARSON

in 1868, he has resided successively in Geneseo, Orion, Omaha, and again finally in Geneseo.

Perhaps instincts inherited from his father, Lars Larson, who was a cabinet maker, led him to learn the carpenter's trade. In 1882 he began working for the firm of Munson and Olson, at Geneseo, after which he went to Omaha, Neb., and worked with the building contracting firm of John Hart for five years. Returning to Geneseo, he engaged in business as building contractor with Mr. Guttorm Olson as his partner. Among the larger contracts undertaken by the firm of Larson and Olson are, the L. and O. Block and the Hammond Library building of Geneseo. In 1905 he bought G. Olson's interest in the business.

Mr. Larson was married to Miss Christina Gustus in Omaha, June 4, 1889. Their children are: Clara L. A., Esther Helen, Sophia Ruth, Fred E., and Hazel Hildur.

Mr. Larson belongs to the Swedish Lutheran Church of Geneseo and is a member of the Yeomen of America.

FRANK AUGUST PETERSON

was born Dec. 3, 1866, in Geneseo, Ill. He is the son of Jonas Peterson, a blacksmith of Geneseo, and his wife, Johanna Bengtsson. Besides attending Augustana College in Rock Island, Mr. August Peterson took the Normal



FRANK AUGUST PETERSON

School course at Geneseo. At present he is a druggist and has been in the drug business for some thirteen years. His one sister, Josephine, is married to

Mr. A. E. Norling of Geneseo; his only brother, Albert, is a druggist at Fort Dodge, Iowa.

Mr. Frank Peterson belongs to the Swedish Lutheran Church at Geneseo.

JOHN O. ANDERSON

was born March 10, 1859, in Högbo parish, Gefleborg län,



JOHN O. ANDERSON

Sweden. He emigrated in 1888, settling in Menominee, Michigan, and since 1893 has lived in Kewanee, Ill. He is a building contractor by vocation. His parents are Anders Johnson, a cabinet maker of Högbo and Karin Johnson.

The subject of this sketch is a member of the Swedish Methodist Episcopal Church in which body he serves as trustee and treasurer.

Mr. John Anderson married Miss Ida Stam in 1890 in Norway, Mich. Their children are Lillie E., John H. and Carl N. A. The family residence is at 809 Willow st.

SWAN A. ANDERSON

was born Dec. 9, 1869, in Löderup parish, Skåne, Sweden. He arrived in this country in 1890, since which time he has been a building contractor at Kewanee. He is the son of Anders and Bella Jönson.



SWAN A. ANDERSON

Mr. Anderson has been very successful as contractor and, contemplating retiring from business, several years ago bought land in North Dakota, with a view to settling there. In 1895 he was married to Miss Anna Swanson of Galva.

ALFRED BURGQVIST

was born April 21, 1857, at Storfors iron mills, Vermland, Sweden, where his father, Nils Bergqvist, was a master blacksmith.

He emigrated in 1881 and made Kewanee his home. In Sweden he had attended a school of ar-



ALFRED BURGQVIST

chitecture and on reaching this country he chose the vocation of building contractor. He has been engaged in that business in Kewanee ever since.

Mr. Burgqvist is a firm adherent of the Swedish Mission church, having been connected with it for the past thirty-one years, here and in the old country.

Mr. Burgqvist established a family Feb. 24, 1883, by marrying Miss Emma Charlotta Löfgren, born at Grythyttehed, Vermland, Oct. 27, 1860. Four sons and one daughter have been born to them, to wit: G. Alfred Mequin, born 1883; Emma Idalla Olivia, born 1887; A. R. Paul, born 1890; Spencer G. Emanuel, born 1894; F. A. Nathaniel, born 1897. Mr. Burgqvist's parents both passed away in the latter '90s.

FRITZ GAFVERT

was born June 19, 1865, in Gustafsfors, Vermland, Sweden. In 1893 he emigrated to America and settled in Kewanee, Ill. Here he soon established a lucrative business as contractor and builder, his success being the result of good practical training in Sweden.

Mr. Gafvert is a member of



FRITZ GAFVERT

M. U. O. A. and Independent Order of Svithiod.

ERNEST A. LAGERSTROM,

minister of the Swedish Baptist Church, was born Sept. 7, 1877, in Upsala, Sweden. His parents, Erick and Margaret Pehrson Lagerstrom, went to Chicago in 1881. The boy attended the public school for a short while, but had to leave when his father died in 1885. He

helped support the family by selling newspapers, and later became a cash boy and then auditing



ERNEST A. LAGERSTROM

clerk at Mandel Bros. Ten years were then spent as a printer with Rand, McNally & Co. During this period he united with Moody's Church and became president of the Y. P. S. C. E. and had charge of the open air meetings of that church. After three years he joined the First Swedish Baptist Church and was president of the B. Y. P. Union and assistant superintendent of the Junior League and of the Sunday school.

Mr. Lagerstrom then entered the Morgan Park Academy and later the Swedish Baptist Seminary at Morgan Park, where four years were spent. While yet a student he was a missionary at Akely, Nevis and White Oak, Minn., serving American missions.

After ordination, he became pastor of the Swedish Baptist Church at Kewanee, where he remained for a year. Since June, 1905, Mr. Lagerstrom has been pastor of the Swedish Baptist Church at Springfield, Mass. He is vice-president of New England Baptist Young People's Union.

Rev. Lagerstrom was married June 7, 1905, to Augusta S. Myhrman of Chicago, born Jan. 4, 1878.

EMIL NEWMAN

was born May 30, 1861, in Bjurkärn, Vermland, Sweden. He emigrated in 1886 and settled in Kewanee. Here he is engaged in business as a carpenter and



EMIL NEWMAN

contractor. In 1905 he retired from that business.

He belongs to the Swedish Congregational Church.

GUNNAR P. NORÉN

was born Dec. 21, 1862, in Ansås, Skåne, Sweden. He emigrated in

1886, with Minneapolis, Minn., as his destination. After due preparation in private schools here in



GUNNAR P. NORÉN

America, he entered the Emanuel Academy and later continued at Augustana College. Then he took up medical studies at the Keokuk Medical College, West Pennsylvania University, and in three different hospitals. He now practices his profession in Kewanee, Ill.

Dr. Norén was married in 1899 to Miss Emma Johnson of Minneapolis, Minn. Both are members of the Swedish Lutheran Church.

Dr. Norén is connected with many medical societies, such as the Physicians' Club of Kewanee, of which he has been president, the Galva District Medical Society, Henry Co. Medical Association, the Illinois State Medical Society, and the American Medical Association.

CARL A. NYSTRÖM

was born Jan. 26, 1869, in Tjellmo parish, Östergötland, Sweden. He came to America in 1892, and after residing at different places finally settled in Kewanee, Ill.

Mr. Nyström is at present in the business of manufacturing and selling heaters.

He belongs to the Masons, the Knights of Macabees, the Good Templars, the Amalgamated Association of Iron and Steel workers, of which he has been president for two terms, and also has been president of the local lodge of the Svithiod order.

In March, 1898, Mr. Nyström was married to Miss Jennie John-



CARL A. NYSTRÖM

son. Their one child is a son, Carl Forest.

GUST STONEBERG

was born Dec. 14, 1860, in the city of Falun, Sweden. He

emigrated in 1880 and went direct to Kewanee, Ill., where he has since resided. He is by trade a molder and since 1893 has been foreman of Peter's Pump Co.

Mr. Stoneberg was elected alderman of the 4th ward in 1903. In the local lodge of the Svithiod order he has filled the office of treasurer. He was married in



GUST STONEBERG

1882 to Miss Kristina Oslund. They have four children.

PETER SWANSON

was born Feb. 8, 1861, in Skåne, Sweden. He emigrated in 1889 and spent one year in Michigan. The following year he moved to Kewanee since when he has been a permanent resident of that city.

Mr. Carlson is a carpenter contractor. He belongs to the Swedish Mission Church.



PETER SWANSON

OSCAR T. GUSTUS

was born Sept. 27, 1864, in Lynn tp., near Ophiem. His father, Nelson Gustus, born in Hvena, Småland, came to America in 1854, being among the emigrants of the first decade. His mother, Clara Magnuson Gustus, born in Sun, Östergötland, emigrated to this country in 1851. She was a sister of Mrs. L. P. Esbjörn. After being bedridden for ten years she died Aug. 3, 1888, at her home near Ophiem. Mr. Oscar Gustus took a two years' course in Western Normal College at Bushnell, Ill., in 1883–84. In 1887 he became part owner of Orion Mercantile Co. Moving to Denver, he went into the real estate business. Thence he removed to Page City, Kansas, where for seven years he was engaged in selling lands for the Union Pacific. Part of that time Mr. Gustus was the

publisher and editor of the Page City *Messenger*. During his stay in Kansas he was also employed



OSCAR THEODORE GUSTUS

by the Southwestern Swedish Town Site Co. and by Victor Rylander in handling real estate.

Returning to Illinois in 1896, he moved on his father's farm near Ophiem, where he has since been engaged in farming.

He has been a member of the Swedish Lutheran Churches at Ophiem, Page City and Swedona, generally serving as a trustee and frequently as secretary.

An independent Republican, he was the first secretary of the first Swedish-American Republican club organized in Henry county. He has repeatedly refused nominations for local political offices, except that of school director, which he has filled for a number of years.

Mr. Gustus was married July 25, 1889, to Miss Clara C. Johnson of Page City, Kans., born June 23, 1865, at Berwick, Warren co., Ill., whose parents, John G. and Karin Johnson, both died at their home in Page City during 1906, the mother on her eightieth birthday, Jan. 6, and the father in his seventy-ninth year, July 9. Mr. and Mrs. Gustus have three children, to-wit, Reuel Theron, 1890; Lyman Ellory, 1893; Gladys Opal, 1896.

With his brother, Prof. J. Edwin Gustus of Moline, he has recently purchased land near the city of Calgary, in Alberta, Canada, a territory now attracting many Swedish settlers, and later in the Pan Handle of Texas, near the city of Amarillo.

HANS P. OTTOSON,

Swedish Lutheran minister, now in charge of the Ophiem congre-



HANS PETER OTTOSON

gation, was born on the farm of his father, Otto Johannesson, at

Nössemark, Dalsland, Sweden, March 15, 1864. In the year 1888 Mr. Ottoson left his old home to strike out for himself in the New World. He lived at first in Chicago and then at Iron Mountain, Mich. Not long afterwards we find him as a student at Augustana College, Rock Island, where he was graduated from the theological seminary in the spring of 1897, being ordained minister a few days later, at the meeting of the Augustana Synod held at Moline. For nine years from the time of his ordination Rev. Ottoson was in charge of the old Swedish Lutheran Church of Knoxville. In 1906 he resigned this pastorate to take up that of Ophiem.

Rev. Ottoson was married Nov. 17, 1897, to Clara Amalia Lander, born June 5, 1868, daughter of J. O. Lander, one of the early Swedish settlers of Knoxville. The union has been blessed with four children, viz., Julia Magdalena, born 1900; Viola Georgiana, 1902; Ruth Linnea Elizabeth, 1904 and James Erland Gezelius, 1905.

CARL A. STEPHENSON,

the son of Stephen and Maria Stephenson, was born July 9, 1859, in Henry co., Ill. Having attended the public schools of Ophiem, he entered Augustana College and later studied at a Business College in Galesburg. Mr. Stephenson now conducts a general mercantile business in Ophiem and is at the same time postmaster of the town. This latter position he has held since 1887.

Mr. Stephenson is a member of the Swedish Lutheran Church



CARL A. STEPHENSON

at Ophiem and in this congregation he has served for many years as trustee and treasurer. He married Miss Hilda Carolina Peterson, daughter of C. J. and Maria Peterson. Their one child is Clarence, born April 6, 1892.

The family worships in the Swedish Lutheran Church in Ophiem. Mr. Stephenson has been a trustee and the treasurer for many years.

PER JOHAN BRODINE

was born in Hjelmsryd, Småland, Sweden, Oct. 12, 1846. He arrived in America together with his father, Carl Johan Brodine, in 1853, his mother having died while on the voyage across the ocean. They settled in Andover, Illinois.

In 1865 he enlisted in the U. S. army and was honorably discharged in 1866. He entered Augustana College, at Paxton, in 1869, the Augustana Theological Seminary in 1874 and was ordained in 1875. In 1902 the degree of D. D. was conferred on him by his Alma Mater.



PER JOHAN BRODINE

Dr. Brodine has been pastor of the Swedish Lutheran churches of Varna, Ill., 1875–1879, of Geneseo, Ill., 1879—1887, of Holdrege, Neb., 1887–1900 and of Orion, Ill., from 1900 until the present time.

He was a member of the board of directors of Luther Academy in Wahoo, Neb., 1888–1900 and president of the Nebraska Conference 1889–1893 and 1897–1901, a member of the board of directors of Augustana College and Theological Seminary 1900–1904, member of the Orphans' Home board and of the mission board of the Nebraska Conference in 1889–90, member of the mission board of the Illinois Conference in 1904–1905, and has served on the board of directors of the Orphans' Home at Andover, Ill., from 1901 to the present, since 1905 in the capacity of chairman.

In 1885 Brodine toured England and Sweden for study and recreation.

Dr. Brodine was married to Miss Lovisa Nordling July 8, 1875. Their children are: Petrus Emanuel, born 1877; Anna Paulina Lovisa, 1880; Carl August Philemon, 1881; Ellen Theodora and Gustaf Axel Theodor, 1885, and Signe Victoria Josephina, 1887. The eldest daughter is married to Mr. Elmer Theodor Anderson.

PETER WESTERLUND,

who has been a resident of Henry county since 1850, was born in the parish of Hassela, Helsingland, Sweden, Aug. 21, 1839. His father, Eric Westerlund, and his mother, Elizabeth Johnson, were among the early Swedish settlers in this locality.

The journey from Gefle, Sweden, to Andover consumed about six months' time. The voyage across the ocean was made in six weeks by sailing vessel. The party went from New York to Albany by steamboat, thence to Buffalo in freight-cars, to Chicago by steamboat, to Peru by canal-boat and from there on to Andover in wagons. Traveling by sea or land in those days was fraught with great peril and

privation. While on the Atlantic the mother and the youngest child of the family died and were



PETER WESTERLUND

buried at sea. The father with the five remaining children reached Andover in November, having started on the journey on the 25th of May.

Peter, then a boy of eleven, was hired out by his father to a farmer near Galesburg for four years, but at the end of two years he broke the contract and returned home.

Peter Westerlund was one of a party of seven Swedes who in 1859, at the time of the Pike's Peak gold craze, started out from the Andover neighborhood in quest of the precious metal. They visited the site of Denver when it was marked by only two small houses of frame, named respectively Aurora and Denver. Not finding what they sought, four of the party, including Peter Westerlund, proceeded southward to Albuquerque by oxteam, thence by boat to El Paso. These four, Andrew, Eric and Peter Westerlund and Peter Hall, are thought to have been the first white men to traverse this stretch of the Rio Grande River with its eight rapids and other perilous passages.

This was in 1860. Peter Westerlund remained for some time in the South, working in a lumber yard in El Paso. During this time he found that all through the southern states secret preparations for war were going on and so concluded to go back North, where he was struck with the unpreparedness of this section of the country for the coming conflict.

In 1865 Mr. Westerlund purchased his first 80 acres of land and went to farming on his own account. In time his farm was increased to one half section.

On Feb. 17, 1863, he was married to Miss Elnora C. S. Hultman. The six children born to them are: Oscar William, John A., Augusta Melinda, Emma E., deceased, Luther A. and Peter E.

In 1897 Mr. Westerlund retired, leaving the management of the farm to the two youngest sons, and made his home in Orion, where, with his son William, he founded the State Bank of Orion in 1882. He was vice-president from its inception and continues in that capacity since the bank has been merged with another similar institution in Orion.

For two terms Mr. Westerlund

has held the presidency of the village board. He has served some eight years as a member of the board of directors of Augustana College. For the past twenty years he has been treasurer of the Svea Mutual Protective Insurance Co. of Henry, Knox and Mercer counties, of which he was one of the organizers. He has also held different township offices, as school trustee and road commissioner. While a member of the old Andover church he served for eleven years as deacon and of the Orion church he has been a trustee for the past ten years.

The family to which Mr. Westerlund belongs is one of the most numerous in the state. From Eric Westerlund, now deceased, the family tree has branched out so as to comprise at present some 175 persons. A family reunion was celebrated at Orion in 1905, attended by 125 descendants. Mr. Westerlund is preparing the story of his early western trip and other reminiscences for publication.

GUSTAF A. SWANBURG,

pastor of the Swedish Lutheran Church in Woodhull, was born April 23, 1857, at Näsby, Småland, where his parents, Carl Gustaf and Anna Maria Swanburg, lived on a farm. The son emigrated from Sweden in 1870 and followed various occupations up to 1882, when he began his studies at Augustana College at Rock Island. After seven years he graduated with the college class of '89. In the fall he entered Augustana Theological Seminary,



GUSTAF ALFRED SWANBURG

completed the divinity course in two years' time and was ordained to the ministry in the Augustana Synod at the synodical meeting in Chisago Lake, Minn., June 21, 1891. Having accepted a call to the churches in Lucas and Belinda, Iowa, he assumed his pastoral duties there the following month. His next field of activity was Chariton, Iowa, whence he removed to Woodhull in the year 1900.

WALTER A. OLSON

was born Sept. 2, 1872, in Wataga, Knox co., Ill. His father, L. W. Olson, emigrated from Sweden in 1849 at the age of ten with his parents. He became a farmer and a merchant in Wataga, held several public offices and died there Aug. 17, 1907. Walter

attended Wataga High School, Knox College in Galesburg and Augustana College in Rock Island. After Mr. Olson's graduation from the last named college in 1895, he temporarily engaged in mercantile business in Oneida. After eighteen months he purchased the Pike co. *Republican* of Pittsfield, of which he was editor and publisher for three years.

He was secretary for the Republican Central Committee of Pike co. for two years. In September, 1899, he left Pike co. for Woodhull where he became editor of the *Woodhull Dispatch*. This position he still holds. Mr. Walter Olson is an interested participant in local and county politics. He was mayor of Woodhull for one term and has served as president of the Swedish-American Republican Club of Henry co. Besides his strong political bent, he has literary aspirations and so, in company with two or three others successfully conducted a lecture course for four seasons.

Mr. Olson was married in 1896 and has a family of two children, De Forrest, a son of nine, and Ruth, a daughter of seven. Mr. Olson and family are members of the Presbyterian Church. He belongs to the Order of Masons and Modern Woodmen in both of which he has held important offices.

It may be here noted that the introduction of electric lights and a water works system in Woodhull was due to the agitation of these matters through the Dispatch since Mr. Olson assumed editorial charge.

KNOX COUNTY

A. W. BERGGREN

is emphatically a self-made man, having risen by his own efforts from an apprenticeship to exalted stations of honor and trust. He was born in Ockelbo parish, Sweden, Aug. 17, 1840, and is the



AUGUST WERNER BERGGREN

son of John and Karin (Hanson) Berggren. His father, a self-educated man, held several minor offices and looked after cases in courts, administering estates and the like. For thirteen years he ran a flouring mill. Afterwards he purchased a farm, on which he lived until he emigrated to this country in 1856.

The subject of this sketch is an example of the accomplishment of much in spite of limited educational advantages. He attended the village school in Sweden until he was fourteen years of age, living at the same time on a farm. Then he was apprenticed to learn the tailor's trade. When the father decided to emigrate to this country he was obliged to pay the master tailor fifty riksdaler for the release of his son from the apprentice's contract.

Mr. Berggren first came to Oneida, Knox county, and then went to Victoria, where he found employment in the tailoring establishment of Jonas Hallström. He then came to Galesburg and worked at his trade, where opportunities were presented. In 1860 he moved to Monmouth, Warren county, and worked for Captain Denman, a merchant tailor of that place.

About the close of the war he returned to Galesburg and became a solicitor of life insurance. During these years he devoted considerable attention, with fair success, to music. He played the violin, became a leader of string bands in Galesburg and Monmouth, and arranged music for them.

Mr. Berggren, for no fault of his, lacks a military record. At the first call for volunteers to put down the Rebellion he went to Knoxville and joined the Swedish company, commanded by Captain Holmberg. Two companies were there: one composed of Americans; the other, of Swedes. The former was mustered into service; the latter disbanded. He then went back to Monmouth, where he remained

until his return to Galesburg in 1864.

Mr. Berggren has held many important offices. In 1869 he was elected justice of the peace in the city of Galesburg. While holding that office he was nominated by the Republican convention for the office of sheriff, and elected in the fall of 1872. With great credit he held the office for four terms. In 1880, while yet sheriff, he was nominated and elected senator from the Twenty-second district, composed of Knox and Mercer counties. Four years afterwards, he was reelected from the new district, composed of Knox and Fulton counties. When the senate was organized in 1887, he was chosen president pro tempore of that body. On May 1, 1889, the governor appointed him warden of the Illinois State Penitentiary at Joliet, which position he resigned in 1891, to take active supervision of the Covenant Mutual Life Association of Illinois, with principal offices in Galesburg.

His public spirit is fully shown by his connection with various public enterprises, such as the Galesburg Stoneware Company; the National Perefoyd Company; the Galesburg Paving Brick Company. He was a member of the firm Berggren and Lundeen, later the J. A. Lundeen Company, and still later the Berggren Clothing Company. From its organization, for twenty years, he was president of the Covenant Mutual Life Association, and after that its treasurer, until it was merged with the Northwestern Life Assurance Company of Chicago in Dec., 1899. He was one of the organizers of the Galesburg National Bank in 1884; continuously one of its directors and at present its vice-president.

Mr. Berggren is both an Odd Fellow and a Mason, joining the former order in 1868, the latter in 1869. He is a member of the several Masonic bodies in Galesburg, and in the Order of Odd Fellows has taken a very active interest, filling every office of the subordinate bodies, and the principal offices of the Grand Lodge. He was Grand Master and presided over the deliberations of the Grand Lodge at Danville, Ill., in 1880, and represented the Grand Lodge in the Sovereign Grand Lodge at Baltimore, Md.

Mr. Berggren has broadened his life and added greatly to his store of information by quite extensive travel. He has visited almost every state in the Union, and in 1882 took an extensive trip through England, France, Belgium, Germany, Denmark, Sweden, Scotland and Ireland.

His charities have been of a practical kind. He has given to the Swedish M. E. Church and parsonage; to several other churches; to Knox College, Lombard Gymnasium and Cottage Hospital.

His religious affiliations are with the Swedish M. E. Church, although in 1856 he was confirmed in the Lutheran Church in Sweden. He served as lay-delegate in the

General Conference at Cincinnati in 1880.

In politics, he is a stanch Republican. He is not only a worker, but has been one of the leaders in his party.

Mr. Berggren was married March 8, 1866, to Christina Näslund, born Feb. 10, 1845, whose parents came to this country in 1854, joining the Bishop Hill colony. Six children were born to them: Capitola Maud, married to Rev. F. E. Jefferey, a missionary to India; Guy Werner, married to Minnie Belle Flanders; Ralph Augustus, killed in a railroad accident in 1887; Claus Eugene; Jay Valentine, married to Bessie Sears, and Earl Hugo.

Jan. 1, 1900, Mr. Berggren withdrew from active life and has since lived in retirement at his home, 529 Losey st.

NELS M. BURGLAND

was born in Gammalstorp, Blekinge, Sweden, Dec. 25, 1846. Emigrating in 1867, he landed in America Sept. 1, destined for Galesburg which has ever since been his place of residence. His education was limited to that acquired in the common school in his home district in Sweden. In Galesburg Mr. Burgland embarked in business as the proprietor of a meat market which with time has gained an extensive patronage. He learned the meat cutter's trade while in the employ of his uncle, Henry Burgland, for five years following his coming to Galesburg. For the next nineteen years he was in partnership with his brother-in-law, Swan Johnson. The firm owned a large



NELS M. BURGLAND

farm, on which were raised most of the cattle which they butchered and shipped. In 1892 Mr. Burgland, severing the partnership, engaged in the same line of business independently and continues to the present time.

Jan. 7, 1873, Mr. Burgland was married to Jennie Jacobson, a daughter of Jacob Nilson, of Jemshög, Blekinge, who operated a flour mill there. Mrs. Burgland was born May 14, 1852. Their children are, Charles M., George H. and Arthur T.

Mr. Burgland has served the community as a member of the city council. In politics he is a strong Republican. He is a stockholder and director of the Bank of Galesburg, the Galesburg Telephone Co. and the Illinois-Canadian Land Co. He has likewise

served on the board of the Galesburg Business Association.

JOHAN ENWALL

settled in Galesburg in the spring of 1868, immediately after his



JOHAN ENWALL

arrival from Vestra Eneby, Sweden, where he was born Nov. 4, 1833. In this city he has plied his trade as a tailor for a long term of years.

He is a devoted Lutheran and is one of the oldest living members of the First Swedish Lutheran Church of the city. He has given his services to the congregation for many years past as a member of the board of deacons of the church. All his interests have centered around his family, his church and his trade.

PHILIP N. GRANVILLE

is a native of Knox county, having been born and raised at Abingdon. Having finished public school, he was sent to Knox Academy where his schooling was completed.



PHILIP N. GRANVILLE

When the Bank of Galesburg was organized in 1889, Mr. Granville was selected as assistant cashier. In 1892 he became cashier and still retains that important position. Mr. Granville has been a director of the bank since its incorporation in 1891.

In 1887 Mr. Granville was elected treasurer of the city of Galesburg, serving in that capacity until 1889, and at the spring election in 1906, the citizens of the Second ward elected him with a handsome majority to represent them in the city council.

Mr. Granville is prominent in fraternal circles, holding membership and office in the following orders: Prelate of Galesburg Commandery of Knights Templar, P. G. of First Scandinavian lodge of the I. O. O. F.; P. H. P. of

the Colfax Encampment, I. O. O. F. He is also a member of the Galesburg Business Association.

In 1903, Nov. 1, Mr. Granville was married and the union has been blessed with a son, born in 1904, and a daughter, born Nov. 24, 1906. The family attend the Swedish M. E. Church, of which Mr. Granville is a respected member.

WESLEY HOLT

was born on a farm near Swedesburg, Henry co., Iowa, May 3,



WESLEY HOLT

1874. There he spent his early years assisting in the work on the farm in summer and attending the public school in winter. Desirous of a general education, he entered the State University of Iowa, from which he graduated in 1899, receiving the degree of A. B. Having decided upon the law as his vocation he pursued the study of it in the College of Law at the same institution. The following year he received the degree of LL. B. and was admitted to practice in the state and federal courts.

While in college, Mr. Holt early exhibited marked abilities as a debater and speaker. He was chosen to participate in the Inter Society Debate and the University oratorical contest. His ability as a writer was recognized in his selection as editor-in-chief of the State University of Iowa *Quill*, and staff representative on the Western College *Magazine*. He was looked upon as a leader among the students.

At the outbreak of the Spanish-American war, Mr. Holt was just entering upon his life work. For him to enlist at that time was no small sacrifice, but no selfish interest deterred him. As a true patriot he heard his country's call. He enlisted and served through the war with Co. I, 50th Iowa Regt. Volunteer Infantry, a part of the 7th Army Corps under Gen. Fitzhugh Lee's command.

Mr. Holt came to Galesburg in the spring of 1901 and was admitted to the bar in Illinois in the autumn of the same year. He opened an office in partnership with Walter C. Frank under the firm name of Holt & Frank immediately after admission and was the only Swedish lawyer in Galesburg.

Mr. Holt was active in religious work, being a member of the First Swedish Lutheran Church and one of the members of its board of trustees.

In politics Mr. Holt was a zealous Republican. He took an active part in the campaigns of the party on the stump and otherwise. He made his first political speech in 1896 for Wm. McKinley.

In 1903, although he had lived but a short time in Galesburg, he had already gained the confidence of the community, as evidenced by his election to the office of city attorney in the spring of that year.

Mr. Holt's creditable and highly promising career was cut short by his untimely death July 8, 1904.

CHARLES F. HURBURGH

was born in Sweden, Jan. 10, 1872. A year later his parents



CHARLES F. HURBURGH

emigrated, settling at Altona, Ill., where the boy was raised. After finishing public school, he obtained a liberal education at Abingdon Normal College and Knox College, institutions both situated in his home county. From the former institution he was graduated in 1892 and from the latter in 1895.

Mr. Hurburgh has served his county in the capacity of sheriff for the official terms of 1902–04 and 1904–06, having acted as deputy sheriff for two years, 1900 to 1902. Prior to entering the service of Knox county, he held the position of principal of the public schools of Maquon, Ill., from 1895 to 1900. In 1906 Mr. Hurburgh was elected a member of the state legislature and took an efficient part in railway legislation last winter.

Aug. 6, 1903, he was married to Miss Anna Scott at Duncan, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Hurburgh are members of the Congregational Church. He is a popular member of the Galesburgh Business Association.

CARL G. JOHNSON,

physician and surgeon, was born in the city of Oscarshamn, Sweden, Jan. 5, 1865. As a young boy he accompanied his parents, C. X. and Helena S. Johnson, to this country in the spring of 1869. The family located in Galesburg, and here the boy obtained his public school education. After that he worked in a boiler factory and at fifteen he went to work on farm for three years. At the opening of the school year in 1883 he was matriculated at Augustana College, Rock Island, and graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Science in June, 1889.

In the fall of the same year he entered the Long Island College Hospital medical school, from



CARL G. JOHNSON

which he graduated with the degree of Doctor of Medicine in March, 1892. Then he accepted an appointment as interne and ambulance surgeon to the Eastern District Hospital in Brooklyn, remaining until the following September, when he resigned to become house physician and surgeon to the Minneapolis City Hospital. Having served in that capacity for one year, Dr. Johnson passed the state board examination in Minnesota in October, 1893, and engaged in private practice in Minneapolis.

In January, 1895, he moved back to his old home city of Galesburg to take up practice. Just after having established himself, he was honored by an appointment on the staff of the Galesburg Cottage Hospital. This position he has retained by reelection up to the present time, and in October, 1901, was elected chief of the medical staff. He is now commissioner of health of Galesburg.

In 1897 Dr. Johnson made a European trip for the purpose of observing the hospital systems of England, Sweden, Denmark and Germany. He improved the opportunity by taking post-graduate courses at Brunswick and Berlin. He is a member of the American Medical Association, the Illinois State Medical Society and the Knox County Medical Society.

Aug. 5, 1896, Dr. Johnson was married to Miss Hannah Larson of Moline, born Sept. 1, 1863. There is one child, Helena Katharine, born in 1900. They are active in church work, being members of the First Swedish Lutheran Church. The doctor gives much time to the Young Men's Christian Association, and has been one of its directors for several years past.

The Augustana Synod in 1899 elected Dr. Johnson on the board of directors of Augustana College and Theological Seminary for a term of four years, at the expiration of which he was again elected for a like term. In 1904 he was chosen a member of the board of Augustana Hospital in Chicago for a term of three years.

CHARLES J. JOHNSON

was born July 11, 1871, in Villstad parish, Småland, Sweden. Emigrating in 1889, he came to Galesburg as a young man of

eighteen, equipped with a common and high school education from the old country. He continued



CHARLES J. JOHNSON

his studies here, however, to acquire the language of the land, and graduated in Brown's Business College in Galesburg. Subsequently entering the employ of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railway Co., he has risen in their service to the position of foreman of the fuel department at the shops in Galesburg. Some seventeen years ago he went to work in the car department of the company, and was promoted to the aforesaid foremanship about eight years ago.

A leading member of the local lodges of the Masonic order, the Svithiod order and the A. O. U. W., Mr. Johnson has filled various offices in all three organizations.

Mr. Johnson's parents, Johan and Anna Pehrson, remained in Villstad, where they are still living. Dec. 6, 1900, he founded a family of his own by marrying Miss Elfrida Möller from Kristianstad, Sweden. They have two children.

C. T. E. JOHNSON

was born and bred in Galesburg. The date of his birth was Feb. 3, 1865. Having finished his education in high school and business college he turned his attention to the machinist's trade. For seventeen years he was in the employ of Frost Manufacturing Co., the last ten being spent on the road, erecting machinery for the firm. In 1903 he was



C. T. E. JOHNSON

appointed superintendent of the city water works.

Mr. Johnson is a loyal and useful member of the First Swedish Lutheran Church. He was elected several years ago on the board of deacons and also made assistant superintendent of the

Sunday school. He is active in the Mens' Luther League of the church.

JOHN J. JOHNSON,

clergyman of the Mission Covenant, was born in Gräsmark par-



JOHN JONAS JOHNSON

ish, Vermland, Sweden, July 3, 1867. At the age of twenty-one he arrived in America. His parents, Jan Jonsson and his wife Birgitta, who were industrious farmer folk, brought up their children in the Christian faith. The son, soon after his arrival, decided to prepare for the ministry of the Gospel, and for that purpose came from Fort Wayne, Ind., where he had settled, to Chicago, entering the Chicago Theological Seminary. After having completed the course, he was stationed as pastor at Odebolt, Ia., before coming to Batavia, Ill., were he labored for many years. Since 1907 he is pastor of the Swedish Mission Church at Galesburg, which has a membership of 230 people.

Rev. Johnson was married Sept. 8, 1894, to Emma Josephine Blom, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Blom, who came to this country in 1870 and had got settled in Chicago just before the great fire. Rev. and Mrs. Johnson have five children, Ruth Victoria, born 1895; Judith Delphine, 1897; Vernon Emanuel, 1899; Dagmar Naomi and Hilding Nathanael, twins, born in 1903.

NELS O. G. JOHNSON

was born in Möllegården, Skåne, Sweden, Jan. 10, 1844, but grew up in Maglaröd in that province, whither his father removed shortly afterward. Both parents died there in recent years. The elder Johnson was a merchant in his



NELS OLOF GOTTFRID JOHNSON

younger days and in later years operated a large farm, now owned by his youngest son. Mr.

N. O. G. Johnson's mother, Bengta Pehrson, was the daughter of Nels Pehrson of Skeinge, Skåne, who owned a large dairy farm and also traded in grain and iron. The son was educated in private and public schools and grew to manhood in Sweden, which he did not leave until 1869. In May of that year he landed in New York, proceeding thence direct to Galesburg where he has been a resident since that time.

After his arrival in Galesburg, Mr. Johnson farmed for the first three years, then engaged in business as a partner in the grocery firm of Clarkson and Johnson. Then after nine years, the partnership was dissolved, Mr. Johnson engaged in milling in partnership with a Mr. Anderson. The Anderson and Johnson mill was profitably operated by them for a number of years; after that Mr. Johnson made heavy real estate investments and has been dealing in realty to the present time. He is treasurer and one of the directors of Illinois-Canadian Land Co. and prominently connected with other commercial interests, being director and vice-president of the Bank of Galesburg and sustaining the same relations to the Commercial Union.

His prominence and influence as a citizen and Republican has never induced him to seek public preferment. To the local Swedish Lutheran Church he has given his services for a number of years as a trustee.

The liberal education afforded by travel Mr. Johnson has enjoyed in full measure. By extensive tours in the United States, Canada and Mexico he has thoroughly informed himself on conditions in these countries, besides what he has learned of old world conditions by travels in England, Scotland, Ireland, Denmark, Norway and Sweden.

Mr. Johnson has been twice married. His first wife was Sophia Anderson of Galesburg, whom he married in 1878 and lost by death in 1882. There were in this union two children, Blenda Amelia, now Mrs. Charles E. Johnson of Galesburg, and Arthur Newton. On June 11, 1890, Mr. Johnson took for his second wife Miss Anna Bennett, of Galesburg, born May 6, 1865, daughter of Bengt P. Bennett. To them have been born: Frances Evangeline, born 1892; Ruth Genevieve, born 1896; Aldis Bennett, born 1900; Craig Russell, born 1901; Vivian, born 1904, and a daughter who died in infancy. The family residence is at 527 E. Main st.

HAROLD L. LINDQUIST,

minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, was born at Beaver, Iroquois county, Ill., Oct. 12, 1859. His father came over from Sweden in 1852 and became one of the pioneer Swedish settlers in Jamestown, N. Y. Five years later he entered the ministry, serving various churches in this state up to 1867, when he removed to Minnesota. The son, Harold, after attending Folsom's Academy, Min-

neapolis, determined on following in his father's footsteps and began fitting himself for the ministry at



HAROLD L. LINDQUIST

the Swedish Theological Seminary in Chicago. The course completed, he was ordained and has since labored in the following fields: Oakland, Neb., 1881–82; Stromsburg, Neb., 1883; Des Moines, Ia., 1884; Red Oak and Essex, Ia., 1885–87; St. Louis, Mo., 1888–92; Burlington, Ia., 1893–97; Keokuk, Ia., 1898–99; Galesburg, 1900 to the present. As pastor at these places Rev. Lindquist has been in the service of the Central Swedish Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

ANDREW O. LINDSTRUM

is one of the representative Swedish-Americans of Galesburg. He was born on a farm near Bishop Hill, Henry county, on the 29th of May, 1873, his father being a member and one of the founders of the Bishop Hill Colony.

At the age of thirteen years, he lost his mother and before he had seen his sixteenth summer, he was also bereft of his father. He left the farm in the fall of 1890 in quest of an education. He had chosen Knox College, located at Galesburg, for his Alma Mater, and from that institution he was graduated in the spring of 1895 when he received the degree of B. S. He was business manager of the College Annual of 1893; was president of the Gnothautii Literary Society; vice - president of the National Republican League of



ANDREW O. LINDSTRUM

college clubs; major of the cadet corps, and commissioned brevet-major of the Illinois National Guards by Governor Altgeld. He early identified himself with the Republican party and served as president of the Knox College

Republican Club in the fall of 1894.

Mr. Lindstrum is a 32d degree Mason, Knight Templar and Shriner.

Mr. Lindstrum is a young man of keen intelligence and naturally the field of journalism early became attractive to him as it afforded a splendid opportunity for the development of native ability along lines in perfect harmony with his tastes. Upon the completion of his college course, he became an assistant in the organization of the *Geneseo Daily Arena*.

His residence in Geneseo was brief and he soon severed his connections with the *Daily Arena* to promote the organization of the *Kewanee Daily Courier*. In 1897 he accepted the position of business manager of the *Galesburg Evening Mail*. This position, he filled acceptably for four years and then resigned to accept the appointment of Deputy Clerk of the County Court of Knox County. At present he is manager and part owner of the *Galesburg Evening Mail*.

He was appointed one of the directors of the Galesburg Public Library in 1907.

He was married on the 3d day of October, 1898 to Miss S. Winifred Chaiser. They have one son, Herbert James.

Mr. Lindstrum is a young man of sterling character and is a recognized leader among the younger element of the Swedish-Americans of Galesburg. He stands high in his community in point of energy, honesty, and integrity. He is a young man of force, who has forged to the front and achieved his success at every stage of his career.

PETER TRUED OLSON,

the son of Trued Olson of Hästveda, Skåne, Sweden, was born



PETER TRUED OLSON

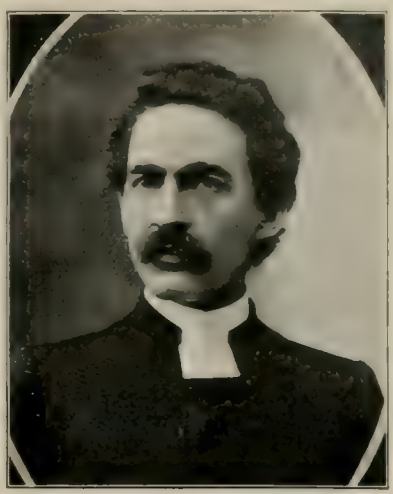
there Feb. 10, 1860. His father died in the old homestead in 1902. The son has enjoyed no education beyond that obtained in the common school of his native place, supplemented by a couple of years in our public schools subsequent to his arrival in America in 1879. For three years he lived in Henry co., Iowa, then, in 1882, located in Galesburg, which became his permanent home. The same year he adopted the brick mason's trade, which he followed for the next ten years.

Having become familiar with the various phases of building construction Mr. Olson in 1892 embarked in business on his own account as contractor and builder. Since then a number of the large buildings in Galesburg have been erected under his supervision, bearing testimony to his practical skill in his chosen vocation. Among these are several public buildings including a half dozen school houses, bank and office buildings and private residences.

Mr. Olson is devoted to the Lutheran faith and for a number of years has served as a trustee of the First Swedish Lutheran Church. He is not active in politics and has never sought public office, but his citizenship is unimpeachable. He has found no time to devote to fraternal societies and orders, living, as he does, for his business and his family. The latter consists of a wife and five children. Carolina Charlotta Edoff, daughter of Per August and Maria Charlotta Edoff of Galesburg, born April 16, 1865, became his wife in November, 1889. The children born to them were seven in all, viz.: Oscar Mauritz, 1890; Agnes Mildred, born 1892; Carl Nathan, born 1894; Hilda Maria, born 1896; Ernst Joshua, born 1898, deceased; Ellen Olivia, born 1901; Ruth Carolina, born 1903.

PETER PETERSON

was born in Fryksände, Vermland, Sweden, Nov. 21, 1866. His parents were Per Person and his wife, Marit Bengtson, who were tenants on an estate. The family came to America in the summer of 1869 and located in Meeker co., Minn. Six weeks after reaching this place, the father was accidentally drowned while fishing in Lake Collinwood, and the mother was left in destitute circumstances, to raise a family of seven children.



PETER PETERSON

The subject of this sketch attended the country school and parochial school at Moore's Prairie, and was confirmed in the Swedish Lutheran Church of this latter place in 1882. From high school, at the age of nineteen, he entered the academical department of Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, Minn., and graduated from the collegiate department of that institution in 1892 with the highest honors of the class, and from Augustana Theological Seminary in Rock Island in 1894. After his ordination on June 10, 1894, he

served the Mission Board of the Augustana Synod as missionary in Ogden, Utah, for one year. He then accepted a call to the St. John's Swedish Luth. Church of Essex, Iowa, and remained there over three years. On Nov. 1, 1898, he entered upon his duties as pastor of the First Swedish Lutheran Church of Galesburg.

Rev. Peterson was married Oct. 17, 1894, to Miss Mathilda Johnson of Vermillion, S. Dak. Three children have been born to them: Elmer Petri Theodor, Aug. 5, 1896; Mildred Mathilda Ingeborg, Dec. 8, 1897; Ruth Sigrid Marie, Aug. 26, 1902.

Dec. 1, 1905, Rev. Peterson removed to St. Paul to assume pastoral charge of the First Swedish Lutheran Church in that city.

Rev. Peterson is at present a member of the executive committee of the Minnesota Conference and serves on the board of directors of Minnesota College at Minneapolis, and on that of the Deaconess' Institute at Omaha.

PETER F. SWANSON

was born in Gumlösa, Skåne, Sweden, Jan. 12, 1866. He graduated from high school at the age of fourteen with highest honors in a class of 50. The father died when Peter was only a child not yet a year old. After leaving school at the age of fourteen he had to work for a living, and for three years was engaged in farm labor, also learning the butcher's trade. As his father had been a carpenter and builder, the son, however, inclined to artisanship and began to work for P. Ljungberg in Hessleholm, then operating a large wagonshop. After serving his apprenticeship as a wagonmaker, he continued in this shop until he was seized with a desire to emigrate to America. Leaving Sweden in March, 1886, he went to Galesburg, which has



PETER F. SWANSON

since been his home. After working on a farm for four years, he again turned to carpentry and affiliated himself with the Carpenters' and Joiners' Union, soon becoming one of the leading members of that body, and for four successive terms held the office of financial secretary. He also represented this body for two terms in the Trades and Labor assembly, holding the same office there. Having had no schooling in this country and desirous of a business education, he joined the night school of Brown's Business College

in the fall of 1893. Not satisfied with night school, he entered for the full business course, which he did not complete owing to the opening of the spring work. A year later he started in business for himself as general contractor and builder. He employs only skilled labor and pays good wages, believing that to his employes he owes much of his success.

Mr. Swanson was married Nov. 27, 1895, to Miss Anna Nielen of Sioux City, Iowa, and they reside at 146 N. Whitesboro st.

In politics Mr. Swanson is a strong Republican and has represented his ward at a number of conventions. He has served on the central committee for two terms, and at the last McKinley election was vice-president of a McKinley club. He represented the Fourth ward in Galesburg City Council in 1901–02.

Mr. Swanson is a member of the Swedish-American Republican League of Illinois, and of a number of social and fraternity societies; he is a prominent Odd Fellow, holding the post of secretary of the Joint Board of Odd Fellows and executive committee of Galesburg.

JOHAN SÄLLSTRÖM,

clergyman of the Swedish Evangelical Mission Covenant, was born March 12, 1866, in Gräsmark in the province of Vermland, Sweden. He is of mixed Norwegian and Swedish stock, his father being a Norwegian and his mother a Swede. His education was obtained in the common schools and later supplemented by private study. In 1883 Mr. Sällström, having affiliated himself with the Mission Covenant of Sweden, became one of its preachers. Two years later he came over to this country, entering at once the service of the Mission Covenant of America. In 1898 he became pastor of its church



JOHAN SÄLLSTRÖM

in Galesburg, where he has since been stationed, except for a recent journey to the Holy Land and a protracted sojourn in Sweden, until the present year, when he removed to Ishpeming, Mich.

Rev. Sällström was married at Tacoma, Wash., in November, 1898. His wife, Julia, was born in Wöse parish, Sweden, Feb. 16, 1873. They have four sons, Hjalmar Ferdinand, Enoch Ludvig, Paul Ansgarius and Bertel Melanchton.

His observations in the Holy

Land Rev. Sällström has embodied in an attractive volume, published in 1907, entitled, "Med Penna och Kamera genom Löftets Land." Rev. Sällström has given interesting lectures on Palestine and the manners and customs of the Orient.

MOSES O. WILLIAMSON

was born on the Atlantic ocean, July 14, 1850, of Swedish parent-



MOSES O. WILLIAMSON

age. His father, William (Olson) Williamson, was a farmer by occupation. He and his family came direct to Illinois and settled in Sparta township, near Wataga, in Knox county, where the father died in 1853 and the mother in 1885. Here the boy grew to manhood and has since resided.

When a lad of fourteen he learned the harnessmaking trade with Olson & Gray at Wataga, served an apprenticeship of three years and worked at the bench more than twenty years thereafter. He attended the district school up to the age of thirteen, with a term of six months in the village school at the age of seventeen.

Mr. Williamson was married Oct. 18, 1871, to Mary A. Driggs of Wataga, Ill. There were born to them one son, who died in infancy, and two daughters, Adelaide F., born April 22, 1878, married May 13, 1902, to Edward Clyde Slocumb, division civil engineer on the C. B. & Q. R. R. for the St. Louis division, their home being at Beardstown, Ill.; and Nellie M., born May 6, 1883, who is unmarried and lives at home. Mr. Williamson is a church attendant, without being affiliated with any one denomination.

Mr. Williamson was elected and served as town and city clerk for seventeen years, alderman and justice of the peace, was elected county treasurer of Knox county in 1886, was elected county clerk in 1890–94–98, was elected treasurer of the state of Illinois in 1900. He has been a member of of the Republican county central committee for twenty-three years, serving as chairman or secretary most of the time. He was one of the organizers and an active member of the Swedish-American Republican League of Illinois and was its president in 1897.

He is a Knight Templar Mason, an Odd Fellow and Knight of Pythias. In 1890 he with his family removed to Galesburg, Ill., which has since been his home. He is, at present, president of the

Swedish Old Settlers of Knox county. He has held membership in the Business Men's Club of Galesburg and in the Hamilton and Marquette Clubs of Chicago. For two years he was a member of the Lincoln Monument Association of Illinois, and it was during his term that the rebuilding of the Lincoln monument at Springfield, Ill., was completed and the remains of the martyred president were laid in their final resting place in the monument.

Mr. Williamson is, at this time, president of the People's Trust and Savings Bank of Galesburg, one of the largest and most successful financial institutions in the state outside of Chicago.

LARS EUGENE OLSON

was born in Sparta township, near Wataga, Ill., Sept. 16, 1862. He attended district school and took a short course in a commercial college at Galesburg. Until 1885 he worked in a store owned by his father, Lars W. Olson, now retired, and then engaged in farming for the next ten years. In August, 1895, he bought out a grocer in Oneida, where he has since carried on a thriving grocery business.

Mr. Olson is a Republican and a man of public spirit who has given his services to the community in several official capacities. For eight successive years from his first election in 1898 he has been a member of the aldermanic council of the city of Oneida and from 1902 to 1904 he served on the Republican central committee of Knox county. From 1897 to



LARS EUGENE OLSON

1907 he held the office of assessor of Ontario township. He is affiliated with the Swedish Lutheran church of the adjoining city of Wataga, and with the local lodge of the Knights of Pythias.

Mr. Olson was married in 1891, to Miss Minnie C. Danielson, whose death cut short the union. One son, Robert E. was born to them. Sept. 21, 1896, Mr. Olson entered into a second matrimonial union, with Miss Christina E. Nelson of Soperville, Ill., daughter of Nels P. and Brita N. Nelson. The second Mrs. Olson has presented her husband with six children, as follows: Helen M., born 1900; Laura L. and Lawrence E., born 1901; O. Raymond and Paul W., born 1903, and Charles Leo, born 1906. Four of these survive.

HJALMAR W. WILLING

clergyman of the Methodist Episcopal church, was born in Helsingborg, Sweden, March 21, 1871. He came over from Sweden with his parents in 1880 and they settled in Brooklyn, N. Y. He afterwards entered the Swedish Theological Seminary in Evanston in 1901 and was ordained in 1904 as a minister of the Gospel in the Methodist Church. He preached for three years at Joliet, Ill., four years at New Windsor, Ill., and then at Aurora, Ill., before being stationed in Chicago, where he became pastor of the Emanuel Swedish M. E. Church and where he remained four years.

His present charge is at Victoria, Knox county, Ill.

KANE COUNTY

AURORA BATAVIA ELGIN GENEVA ST. CHARLES

ANDREW M. ANDERSON

was born in Småland, Sweden, Aug. 16, 1864. He emigrated from



ANDREW M. ANDERSON

his native land at the age of seventeen, landing in America in June, 1882, and first located in Galesburg, removing later to Aurora, where he has since had his abode. For years past he has been an employee of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy R. R. Company and holds the position of mason foreman.

Mr. Anderson has always taken a live interest in political and church affairs, and he is an active fraternity man. The Swedish Lutheran Church, of which he is a member, has profited by his services on its board of trustees for many years, part of the time as secretary of the church. Mr. Anderson was elected alderman from the First ward in 1903, and as a public servant he is a zealous promoter of public improvements. He was returned to the city council in 1905 without opposition and in 1907 was reelected with a large majority. He was vice-president for Kane county of the Swedish-American Republican League of Illinois in 1897 and 1898, and is in hearty accord with the purpose of that organization, namely to bring the Swedish-Americans into evidence and see to it that they receive their just share of recognition and political preferment.

The fraternal orders of which Mr. Anderson is a member are, the Modern Woodmen, Fraternal Tribune and the local lodge of Nordens Söner.

JOHN ALFRED BENANDER,

pastor of the Swedish Lutheran Church of Aurora, was born in Högsäter parish, Dalsland, Sweden, Feb. 6, 1872. Being one of five children in a family of very limited means he was obliged to begin bread winning at the early age of nine, and his schooling was limited in consequence. He came to this country as a young man of twenty, lived in Moline and Sherrard, Ill., tried factory work, carpentry and painting, attended public schools during one

winter, then entered Augustana College in accordance with a long cherished desire to prepare him-



JOHN ALFRED BENANDER

self for the ministry. He was enrolled in the fall of 1893 and graduated from the academy in 1896, from the college in 1900 and from the theological seminary in 1903. He made his way through school by his own efforts, his parents being unable to assist him. While a student he taught parish school and supplied vacant charges in Chicago, McKeesport, Pa., Cumberland, Wis., San Francisco and Des Moines. After his ordination to the ministry in June, 1903, Rev. Benander made a tour of Europe, visiting Sweden, Norway, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, France and England. His first regular charge was Kiron and Odebolt, Ia., where he labored from 1903 to 1906. His pastorate in Aurora dates from the last named year.

June 22, 1904, Rev. Benander was married at Harcourt, Ia., to Miss Minnie Joanna Engquist, born Jan. 19, 1878.

While at school Rev. Benander was active in a number of societies, was treasurer of the Augustana Foreign Mission Society for three years, and was president of his class in the seminary for a like term. While in Iowa, he was secretary of the Sioux City district of the Iowa Conference and president of the Luther League. He is now secretary of the Rockford district of the Illinois Conference and a member of the Chicago Lutheran Inner Mission Society.

JOHN A. FREEMAN,

who is engaged in the business of floriculture in Aurora, is a native



JOHN A. FREEMAN

of the Swedish province of Halland, where he was born in 1855. Emigrating in 1872 he landed at

Boston and proceeded thence to Lemont, Ill., where he remained only two years. His next residence was at Batavia, where he lived from 1874 to 1880, when he located permanently at Aurora. Five years later he started in business as a florist and now owns large greenhouses on N. Lake st.

Mr. Freeman was elected to the city council from the First ward in 1896 and twice reelected, serving for six consecutive years. As a member of the board of aldermen Mr. Freeman was chairman of the License Committee and also served on the Sidewalk, Street and Alleys and other committees.

July 10, 1883, Mr. Freeman was married to Miss Christine Anderson. They are the parents of four sons and one daughter. The family are members of the Swedish Lutheran Church.

PETER A. FREEMAN

was born in the province of Halland, Sweden, July 16, 1861. Eighteen years later he came to Chicago as a young immigrant, equipped with ordinary schooling offered in the common schools of Sweden. He then went to Aurora, where he located permanently and is now engaged in business as a florist.

Being an active member of the Swedish Lutheran Church, he has been elected on its board of trustees. Equally active in politics, he has been for some time a member of the Kane County Republican Central Committee, president of the Swedish-American Republican Club and has served as a deputy sheriff of the county. Of fraternal orders, he is affiliated



PETER A. FREEMAN

with the Modern Woodmen and the Yeomen of America.

Mr. Freeman in 1884 was married to Augusta Anderson. The couple have two sons, William and Edward.

JOHN GUSTAVE IVARSON

was born in Ljunga parish, in Småland, Sweden, Feb. 27, 1859. His parents were Peter Johanson, a farmer, and his wife, Maria Christina, née Gustafson. Both parents died in the old country, the mother in 1865, the father ten years later. The boy attended common, or people's schools up to 1876, when he came to Geneva, Ill., as an immigrant. In that locality he worked on a farm for two years and then went to Batavia, remaining until July, 1881, when he removed to Aurora and

obtained employment in the shops of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Ry., as a car builder. After



JOHN GUSTAVE IVARSON

eight years he left to accept a position as mail carrier, which has since been his vocation.

Mr. Ivarson has always taken an interest in local political, fraternal and church affairs. He is vice-president of the Swedish-American Republican Club and secretary of the First Ward Swedish Republican Club; president of the Nordens Söner society and of the Nordens Söner central assembly of Kane county, with headquarters in Batavia; member of the Swedish Lutheran church, and chairmain of its board of trustees. Being endowed with a good voice, Mr. Ivarson for many years sang in the church choir and is now a member of the Swedish Male Sextette of Aurora.

Mr. Ivarson was married Sept. 16, 1882, to Miss Bessie L. Olson, born in Torpa, Halland, Dec. 26, 1860. Four daughters have been born to them: Anna Marie, born 1883, Clara Josephine, born 1887, Emma Nora, born 1889, Mildred Matilda, born 1892.

EUGENE MALMER

has been a resident of Aurora from the day of his birth, March 25, 1873. He attended the public schools here and subsequently graduated from the Aurora High School. After that he entered the Chicago School of Architecture, completing the course and receiving his diploma in 1894. Obtaining a place with architect W. A. Otis of Chicago



EUGENE MALMER

he soon advanced to the place of head draughtsman. After holding this position for a number of years he passed the state architectural examination and left the

office to assume charge of the construction of the new public library building at Aurora. After completing the work Mr. Malmer opened his own office in Aurora, where he is now one of the leading architects.

As a member of the local Swedish Lutheran church Mr. Malmer has been elected on the board of trustees and is now serving as church treasurer.

FRANZ OSCAR PETERSON

was born Jan. 18, 1841, in Norrköping, Sweden, whence he



FRANZ OSCAR PETERSON

emigrated in May, 1868, to Chicago. After a year's stay in that city he went to Aurora, but left that place for Springfield a year and a half later. Finally, after six years in the state capital, Mr. Peterson returned to Aurora, which since then has been his permanent home. He is a book-binder by trade and in recent years has been engaged in the manufacture of binders' glue. A company has been formed for the manufacture of the None Such Flexible Glue, known as F. O. Peterson and Co., with Mr. Peterson as president.

Such has been his devotion to his work and business that he has never affiliated with any church or fraternal order, or engaged in political activity. In 1872 he was married to Miss Edla Sophia Engmark with whom he has four sons and a daughter.

ADOLF I. ANDERSON

was born Oct. 27, 1837, in Örmevalla parish, Halland, Sweden, where he began work as a tailor's apprentice at the age of twelve. Having mastered the trade at eighteen, he worked on his own account as a journeyman tailor until 1873. That year, with his family, he emigrated, landing at Quebec in July. After a stay of several months in the Canadian city he came on to Batavia the following October. Here he was employed in the tailor shop of A. P. Anderson for the next eight years. Then he formed a partnership with J. E. Wallen and the two started a tailoring business on Batavia ave., of which, after three years, Mr. Anderson became sole proprietor. In 1893 the establishment was removed to the Anderson Bros. Block on Wilson st., where it is located at the present time.

In 1866 Mr. Anderson lost his wife, Carolina Gustafva Börgeson,

to whom he was married in 1860. Of their two children, a son died in infancy. The daughter died in



ADOLF I. ANDERSON

Green Bay, Wis., in 1895, as the wife of Charles S. Addison and the mother of eight children. In 1897 he took a second wife, Anna Stina Anderson, who bore him five children. The family are members of the Swedish Lutheran Church of Batavia, where Mr. Anderson has served many years in the church council.

JOHN AARON ANDERSON

is one of the most enterprising merchants and business men of Batavia, and he is given credit for having contributed more to the growth and development of the city than any other man during the thirty-five years he has resided there.

Mr. Anderson is a farmer boy from Sällstorp parish, Halland, Sweden, where he was born Nov. 24, 1850. His parents were Magnus Anderson and Anna Nilsson. His father died in the old country, and the mother in Batavia. With the ordinary schooling offered in a country district, the boy grew to manhood. Arriving at the age of twenty-two he decided to quit the old soil and came over here in April, 1872, spending seven months in Lemont before settling permanently in Batavia.

When he first came there he did not have capital enough to pay a week's board in advance. He at once got employment in a manufacturing shop, laying by enough to purchase an interest in a small stock of merchandise in



JOHN AARON ANDERSON

1880. After a little over a year he sold out to one Nelson, but six months later formed a copartnership with his brother-in-law, Oscar Anderson, and repurchased the stock. He still continued working in the shops by day,

helping in the store evenings. After two years, however, the business required his whole time.

This copartnership existed for twenty years or up to 1903. when he and his sons, John A. Jr. and Wm. R., purchased the grocery department, one of the largest stores of its kind in the city.

In 1892, their quarters having grown too small to accommodate their extensive trade, the old firm put up the Anderson Block, one of the most substantial buildings in Batavia, located at Batavia ave. and Wilson st.

The present name and style of the business headed by Mr. Anderson, is John A. Anderson & Sons.

Mr. Anderson has been interested in two additions to the city, he being instrumental in selling all of the lots, on which upwards of a hundred snug and commodious houses have been built. He owns a fine residence in the city and also a large farm in the vicinity.

When the Swedish Lutheran church was erected, of which Mr. Anderson had been a member since 1872, he lent an active hand, serving as treasurer during its construction. For a dozen years or more he was a member of the church council. He has twice served the city as an alderman, four years in all, and is a director in the First National Bank of Batavia.

Mr. Anderson's business career is an honorable one throughout, and has won for him the respect and esteem of his fellow-townsmen in full measure.

He entered wedlock in 1875 with Anna L. Anderson, daughter of Anders Borgesen and his wife, Anna Oleson, of Batavia. Of a family of six children born to Mr. and Mrs. Anderson, five are living. A son and a daughter are married, the latter to Charles A. Pierce of Batavia.

OSCAR ANDERSON

was born at Idala, Halland, Sweden, Dec. 25, 1845. In 1869 he



OSCAR ANDERSON

came to the United States and resided in Batavia for more than twenty-five years. Prior to that he worked twelve years as a common laborer, mostly on railroads, in Illinois, Iowa and Michigan. By rigid economy he saved enough to start a general merchandise business on a small scale with his brother-in-law, John A. Anderson. Year by year the business grew

and, although various changes have been made in the firm, Mr. Anderson is still at the head of it. In 1902 the old building was removed and the firm purchased more ground and erected a handsome two-story brick block 50x80 feet. The firm is now known as Anderson & Sevetson, Mr. Sevetson having become a partner in November, 1903. Up to this time the firm of Anderson & Anderson had handled dry goods and groceries, but now the grocery department was taken over by Mr. John A. Anderson and his son, Mr. Oscar Anderson and his firm continuing to deal in dry goods, clothing and men's furnishing goods.

Mr. Anderson has served the city as a member of the Board of Education for a dozen years or more. In politics he is a Republican. He is a devoted member of the Swedish Lutheran Church, it being the only organization claiming him as a member.

In 1875 he was married to Anna L. Samuelson of Frillesås, Halland, who has presented him with two children, a son in 1878 and a daughter in 1885. The son is married and holds a position in the First National Bank of Batavia. The daughter is attending college.

Besides his business and a snug home Mr. Anderson owns considerable property in his home city and elsewhere.

NELS PETER GUSTAFSON

was born at Kristdala, Småland, Sweden, Nov. 14, 1854. His



NELS PETER GUSTAFSON

father, Gustaf Petterson, an underfarmer, died in the old country in 1874. His mother, Kajsa Elisa, née Samuelson, lives at the home of her son in Batavia.

Mr. Gustafson's schooling was limited to a brief attendance at the Normal School in Sugar Grove, Ill., in 1874–5, about one year after his arrival in the United States.

Mr. Gustafson stands high in the community and has been for years past a prominent factor in Swedish American activities. He was the organizer of the beneficiary society known as Nordens Söner, which now has five branches and some 600 members in Kane county. In the organization of the Swedish-American Republican Club of Batavia he was also the prime mover and became its first

presiding officer. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen.

In 1896 Mr. Gustafson was elected to the office of county tax collector.

Dec. 30, 1887, he was married to Miss Alice Butcher, born in Hyth, England, Feb. 12, 1866. They have seven living children: John A., born 1890; Alice Ottilia, '92; Nellie Grace, '94; Edna Rosita, '96; Stella Marie, '98; Oscar Arnold, 1900; Ada Lucile, '03. A daughter, born in 1888, died at the age of two years. The family are members of the Congregational Church.

OSCAR W. HUBBARD

is a native of Batavia, where he has been established in medical



OSCAR WILHELM HUBBARD

practice since 1899. He is the oldest son of Gustavus Hubbard who came to America from Härlunda, Småland, in 1853, and was the first Swede to locate permanently at Batavia, where he engaged in timber contracting. He was united in marriage by Rev. Erland Carlsson, to Katharina Svensson, daughter of a schoolmaster from Hjortsberga, Småland, who came over from Sweden in 1854 and settled at St. Charles. The couple were pioneer members of the Swedish Lutheran Church of Geneva. Here three sons were born to them. Oscar Wilhelm, July 23, 1864, Gustaf Edmund, now owner of a cattle ranch in Kansas, and Levi Henry, a professional musician of Chicago.

In 1876 the family removed to Salina, Kansas, and late in the same year, to Fremont. In 1899, the family made their home in Lindsborg, Kans., where the elder Hubbard now lives, his wife having died in June, 1906.

Dr. Oscar W. Hubbard received his preliminary education in public and Swedish parochial schools at Batavia, Geneva and St. Charles, Ill., and Salina and Fremont, Kansas. On the day of the opening of Bethany Academy, the forerunner of Bethany College, Oct. 12, 1881, he was matriculated as a student, and was graduated from the academy in 1885. After having spent the next four years at Augustana College he was graduated with the degree of A. B. in '89. Having engaged in educational work until 1895, he then took up the study of medicine under the preceptorship of Dr. William Francis Waugh, Dean of the Illinois Medical College in Chicago. In

March of the following year he was matriculated at that school, graduating in the fall of 1898, with the degree of M. D. and the word of the president that "the college had never had a more all-round satisfactory student.

Dr. Hubbard in the same year located in Chicago as a practitioner of the regular school, serving one year in the Illinois Medical College Hospital and completing a post-graduate course in dissection and demonstration at the Chicago School of Anatomy and Physiology. Thus equipped Dr. Hubbard in 1899 moved back to his old home town of Batavia, where a lucrative practice was built up. Besides his general practice Dr. Hubbard acts as examiner for a large number of insurance companies and fraternal orders. He is a member of the following bodies, organizations and associations: the American Medical Association, the Fox River Valley Medical Association, Illinois Medical College board of censors, Batavia Board of Education, the Bethany Lutheran church at Batavia, Nordens Söner and the alumni associations of Illinois Medical, Bethany and Augustana Colleges.

In Sept. 1902, Dr. Hubbard was married to Ida Harleen, daughter of Per J. Harleen, a rural furniture maker of Hörlunda, Småland.

To Dr. and Mrs. Hubbard have been born two daughters, Svea Katharina in 1904 and Vendela Iduna in 1906.

JOHN MICHOLSON

was born in Halland, Sweden, in 1860, and with his parents came



JOHN MICHOLSON

to Batavia, Ill., in the year 1869, and has been a resident of that city since.

He attended the public schools of Batavia and after leaving school learned the trade of molder which he followed a few years and then abandoned to take up the trade of butcher. After successfully a meat market for a number of years he sold out the business to engage in the wholesale and retail ice business, in which he is engaged at the present time.

He early took an interest in politics and has always been identified with the Republican party. For eight years he served his fellow citizens as alderman of his ward and he served a longer period as county supervisor representing the township of Batavia. His long and continued services

in this capacity speaks volumes for the estimation in which he is held by his fellow-citizens.

He has taken an active interest in the Swedish-American Republican League of Illinois having served as president of the Kane County branch for eight years, president of the local club for three years and treasurer of the State League for one year. Wherever the interests of the Republican party can best be served there can Mr. Micholson always be found.

GUSTAF NELSON

was born May 26, 1861, in Fleninge, Skåne, Sweden. On the



GUSTAF NELSON

same date, twenty years after, he landed in America and proceeded to this state, where he first located in Geneva. With a common school education from the old country, he went to work on the farm of Edgar Bartlett, near Geneva. Subsequently he became coachman for Rev. Dr. Gammen, a Methodist minister interested in the Marsh Harvester Works. Having saved a portion of his small earnings in these years, Mr. Nelson launched into business, opening a grocery store at Batavia. Here he has enjoyed a good trade up to the present time and is to-day one of the well-to-do merchants of the city. He deals now in general merchandise, meats, flour and feed, having added new lines from time to time.

Mr. Nelson, who is unmarried, has made two European tours, visiting the principal cities, his objective point, however, being his old home in Fleninge, where his father, Nils Jönsson, is a building contractor.

MATTHIAS LETHIN,

who has been established as a merchant tailor in Elgin since 1875, was born at Jemshög, Blekinge, Sweden, Oct. 10, 1843. In the spring of 1868 he landed in America, coming to Elgin to locate the following fall. Equipped with a common school education and having learned the tailor's trade, he opened a shop and is still doing business under the firm name of Lethin Bros., his brother Swan being his partner.

On the same occasion, Dec. 29, 1871, the brothers were married to two sisters, the bride of Matthias Lethin being Miss Carolina Gustafva Samuelson, born Oct. 22, 1846, in Vestergötland. Mr.

and Mrs. Lethin have seven children, whose names are here given in the order of their birth: Theckla



MATTHIAS LETHIN

Maria, Agnes Elizabeth, Ruth Linnea, Emanuel Mattheus, Elmer Samuel, Walter Timotheus, and Anton Nathanael.

Mr. and Mrs. Lethin have ever been active workers in the local Swedish Lutheran Church, Mr. Lethin serving at various periods as trustee, deacon and superintendent of the Sunday school. He also takes an interest in general affairs and has been elected a director of the local Young Men's Christian Association.

SWAN LETHIN,

associated with his brother, Matthias, in the merchant tailoring firm of Lethin Bros., was born Feb. 12, 1848, at Jemshög, Blekinge, Sweden. In 1869 he came over to the United States, whither his brother had preceded him the year before. He rejoined his brother in Elgin, where he has since resided continuously. He was married Dec. 29, 1871, to Miss Mathilda Sophia Samuelson, the occasion being a double wedding, at which the grooms were brothers and the brides sisters.

Mr. Lethin has served as organist of the Swedish Lutheran Church for more than twenty years and, like his brother Matthias, he has taken a prominent part in the affairs of the church in the capacities of trustee and deacon.

In Mr. Lethin's family there are six grown-up children: Hulda Carolina, born 1872; Paul Walter



SWAN LETHIN

Victorius, 1874; Leopold Nathanael, 1875; Dell Emanuel, 1876; Rosa Johanna, 1880, and Albin Samuel, 1884.

WILLIAM RUNDQUIST

was born May 26, 1842, in Stockholm, where his father, Per Gus-

taf Rundquist, was a jeweler by trade. Having attended the common schools in the Swedish capital, young Rundquist worked as a jeweler's apprentice from 1856 to 1860. The latter year he went to sea as a member of the crew of the mission brig Hiram, from Gefle. This mission ship was fitted out by Ahlberg, the eminent Swedish divine, known as the founder of a divinity school bearing his name. The plan was to carry on shipping between Sweden and foreign ports in support of missions in heathen lands. After a few years' trial the project failed and, returning home in 1863,



WILLIAM RUNDQUIST

Mr. Rundquist went back to the jeweler's workbench and the following year became a journeyman jeweler.

In 1865 he decided to emigrate to the United States, and at first located in St. Charles. The following year he lived in Geneva, and in April, 1867, removed to Elgin, where he obtained employment in the watch factory. He continued with the Elgin National Watch Company for more than twenty-six years, leaving in June, 1893. For years subsequently, Mr. Rundquist was engaged in making inventions and improvements in machinery and tools, and in manufacturing several articles patented by him. Among these are the Elgin lawn sprinkler and the Elgin screw driver. For six years from 1897 Mr. Rundquist was city superintendent of streets, retiring from active work at the end of that time.

Since the organization of the Bethlehem Swedish Luth. Church of Elgin in 1871, Mr. Rundquist has been affiliated with that congregation, serving it all these years in the capacity of either trustee or deacon.

Sept. 15, 1867, William Rundquist and Miss Sophia Samuelson were married at Geneva. They have raised a family of seven children, four others having died. A daughter, Amalia, is the wife of Mr. Alfred Anderson of St. Charles, and a son, Gustaf Ruben, is married to Miss Jennie Johnson of Chicago.

For the past thirty years Mr. Rundquist has been active as a lay preacher, frequently conducting divine services in various places in the absence of regular pastors.

THEODORE N. PETERSON,

Methodist Episcopal clergyman, was born in Sweden, July 4, 1873. Since his coming to the United States in 1881, his time was divided between attending public school and other occupations until he determined upon entering the service of the church. Matriculating at the Swedish seminary at Evanston, Ill., he completed the divinity course and was graduated in 1895. After studying for another year at the Northwestern University he was ordained a minister of the Swedish M. E. Church in 1896. Subsequently he labored with success, three years at Braddock, Pa., four years at Falconer, N. Y., and for a number of years at Victoria, the cradle of Swedish Methodism in the United States. He is now in charge of the Swedish Methodist Church in Geneva.

Rev. Mr. Peterson was married at Chicago, Sept. 27, 1899, to Miss Clara O. Thorson, born in that city, April 25, 1876. Her parents' home, which was spared in the great fire of 1871, was opened as a place of refuge for many a homeless countryman who had lost everything in that terrible disaster. Rev. and Mrs. Peterson have two sons, Keith Ambrose, born in 1900, and Boyd Newton, born Nov. 3, 1906.

WILHELMINA C. WISTRAND

is the daughter of J. H. Wistrand, one of the early Swedish settlers of Paxton, who subsequently removed to Moline, where he passed away in February, 1904. She was born in Paxton. Having completed her studies under Dr. Gustav Stolpe at the Augustana Conservatory of Music at Rock Island, she was among the first to graduate from that institution. Accepting the position as organist of the Swedish Lutheran Church in Des Moines, Iowa, she served in that capacity for a number of



WILHELMINA CATHERINE WISTRAND

years, meanwhile teaching piano, organ and harmony and studying at the Des Moines Musical College, the American School of Methods at Boston, and the American School of Methods at Chicago, being a graduate of the last named school.

From De Moines she went to Jewell College, at Jewell, Iowa., where she was for one year director of the musical department. From September, 1904, to the end of 1906, she has served as

organist of the Swedish Lutheran Church at Geneva, occupying simultaneously the position of principal of the Geneva Conservatory of Music and that of supervisor of music in the city public schools. At the beginning of the year 1907, she removed to Denver to take the position of organist of the Swedish Lutheran church in that city.

CLAUS ALFRED ANDERSON

is a native Illinoisan, born at St. Charles, Oct. 13, 1873. His



CLAUS ALFRED ANDERSON

education was obtained in the local public schools. His father was a carpenter, and when the son reached mature years he went into the business of building contractor, in which line he has achieved a goodly measure of success. Among the more important structures erected by him may be mentioned the Swedish Lutheran church edifice at Geneva.

On May 18, 1901, Mr. Anderson was united in marriage to Miss Mollie Rundquist, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Rundquist, a prominent Swedish family of Elgin. A child, Ivan Le Roy, was born to the Andersons in 1903. The family belongs to the Swedish Lutheran Church of St. Charles.

PETER CARLSON

was born at Langelanda, Bohuslän, Sweden, Feb. 28, 1842, and has been a resident of St. Charles, since June, 1871. When seventeen years of age he learned the shoemaker's trade and worked at that in Göteborg and Stockholm. In 1865, he was married to Magdalena Erickson, born April 3, 1841. Two children have been born to them, Fritz Gerhard, in



PETER CARLSON

1866, and Oscar Ambrosius, in 1879.

In 1873, two years after locat-

ing in St. Charles, Mr. Carlson there established his present business as manufacturer and dealer in boots and shoes.

In politics a Republican, Mr. Carlson is a member of the local Swedish Republican Club. He has served as a member of the aldermanic council. In church matters he affiliates with the Lutherans, and has served the local Swedish church for various terms as trustee and deacon.

The eldest son of Mr. Carlson is now engaged in the clothing business in St. Charles. The younger, who was educated at Augustana College and at the Metropolitan Business College, has served three terms as engrossing and enrolling clerk of the State senate, and is now in the U. S. treasury department at Washington, D. C.

THURE A. JOHANSON

was born in the Swedish city of Kalmar, June 25, 1869. He attended common school and finished three classes in the higher elementary school in Kalmar before emigrating to this country. Landing in New York City, May 1, 1887, he experienced the usual hardships of the newcomer, before obtaining satisfactory employment. After working for six months in an architect's office, he began learning the trade of piano making in the Conover factory. Later he practiced piano making in the Weber, the Decker Bros. and other piano factories in New York, learning the trade in all its branches.



THURE ADRIAN JOHANSON

In 1891 he came to Chicago to work for the Cable Piano Co., and gradually worked himself up to his present position as superintendent of their extensive piano factory at St. Charles.

While living in Chicago, Mr. Johanson was for eleven years a very active member of the Swedish Glee Club.

Mr. Johanson is married to Miss Maria Freeberg and they have two children. They attend the Emanuel Swedish Lutheran Church in St. Charles.

NELS T. JOHANSON

was born May 10, 1875, in Kalmar, Sweden. He attended public school in his native city.

When twenty years of age he

emigrated to the United States and landed July 4, 1895.

Going to Chicago, he was em-



NELS T. JOHANSON

ployed as a pianomaker by the Cable Piano Co. In 1903 he removed to St. Charles and is now employed as a foreman in the Cable Piano Works at this place.

Mr. Johanson is a member of the local Swedish Lutheran Church and of the beneficiary society Ledstjärnan.

NELS M. LILJEGREN

was born Dec. 9, 1846, in Karlaby, Skåne, Sweden. He attended the elementary school in Göteborg, from which he graduated in 1868. His hope of becoming a Lutheran minister was frustrated by financial troubles. Eventually a change in his religious belief in 1869 caused him to join the Methodist Society in Göteborg. He labored in this church body for seventeen years and emigrated in 1886. In America he has been stationed as pastor in Chicago, Moline, Rockford, Aurora, Marinette, Wis., Minneapolis, Minn., Bishop Hill, Ill., Racine, Wis., Andover and St. Charles, Ill.

Rev. Liljegren is an indefatigable worker and besides his regular duties finds time for literary work. He has contributed quite extensively to *Sändebudet* and other papers. Of the books he has published may be mentioned: "John, Whom Jesus Loved," "Where and What is Heaven?" "Once More the Question of Baptism."

In 1876 Rev. Liljegren was married to Miss Sophie Witting. Of



NELS M. LILJEGREN

their six children but three survive, viz., Alice, Annie and Nels Victor.

JOHN F. MONGERSON

was born in Sweden April 7, 1866, and came to the United States as a child five years old. The fam-

ily located in St. Charles, where the boy attended the public schools. At fifteen years of age he began



JOHN FREDERICK MONGERSON

work as a clerk in a grocery store. After having gained seven years' experience in that line, he went into the grocery business on his own account in 1888, continuing as a grocer up to the present time.

Mr. Mongerson has been elected to the office of trustee in the local Swedish Lutheran Church, of which he is a member of long standing. In 1905 his fellow townsmen gave him their tribute of confidence by electing him to the office of city treasurer. Prior to that, Mr. Mongerson had been honored by being chosen to fill various local offices, having served as alderman for two years, as town clerk for a like term, and as trustee of schools for nine years.

His marriage to Miss Mathilda M. Peterson of Geneva took place April 30, 1890. The fruit of this union is a daughter, Valeda L., born in 1893.

CHARLES OLSON

born at St. Charles, Dec. 3, 1857, is one of the earliest native Swedes of the locality. He was educated in the district schools. His youth up to the age of twenty-two was spent on the farm. Subsequently he worked in a foundry for four years, afterward engaging in merchandising as dealer in groceries and hardware. He was in that line of business for more than a score of years. Aug. 1, 1904, Mr. Olson sold his mercantile business and engaged in the real estate and fire insurance business.



CHARLES OLSON

Mr. Olson served as town clerk for nine years and has been a member of the Board of Education for a considerable period. He is an active Republican, taking the lead in Swedish political

circles and serving for various periods as president of the local Swedish-American Republican Club and secretary of the Kane County Swedish-American Republican Central Club. He has taken interest in the work of the Swedish-American Republican League of Illinois and in 1902 was elected vice-president for Kane county. In April, 1905, he was elected justice of the peace, which office he still holds.

Being a member of the Swedish Lutheran Church of St. Charles, he has served it in two capacities, as deacon and as secretary of the church council for many years past.

In 1888 Mr. Olson was married to Ida T. Schoberg. There are four children as the issue of the union, two sons and two daughters.

Rock Island County

WILLIAM A. ALSTERLUND was born April 9, 1870, in Chicago where his parents, John Frederick and Elizabeth (Bock) Alsterlund resided before removing to Moline. The elder Alsterlund, who died at Battle Creek, Mich., April 30, 1897, was an engineer who for a long term of years was at the head of the Moline water works. Mrs. Alsterlund died in Moline, Dec. 7, 1875.

The son William had his general education in the public schools of Moline and by a course in business college in Davenport, Ia., prepared for his future work. For fifteen years he has been with the firm of Dimock, Gould and Co. where he is employed as lumber salesman.

In 1893 Mr. Alsterlund married Daisy P. Cleland who died after two years. Seven years afterward he married Louise J. Jamieson. A daughter was born to them on June 4, 1905.

Mr. Alsterlund is a member of the First Baptist Church and has been one of its trustees.

O. FREDERICK ANDERSON, cashier of the Moline Trust & Savings Bank, was born at Trehörna, Östergötland, Sweden, July 1, 1866. His parents were Alfred Anderson, a miller, and his wife Anna Greta Johanson. The elder Mr. Anderson passed away in Moline in 1881, having come over to this country with his family in 1868. They first located in Aurora, Ill., but shortly afterward



O. FREDERICK ANDERSON

settled permanently in Moline. Here the son, Otto Frederick, received his preliminary education in the public schools. He worked as apprentice to a machinist for two years, upon leaving school, then was salesman in a clothing store for a time. Determined to obtain better training for a business career, he took a course in a business college in Davenport, Iowa.

At seventeen he was employed as messenger in the Moline National Bank, beginning May 1, 1883. Passing through the grades, he was promoted to bookkeeper. In 1891, he accepted the position of teller in the Moline State Sav-

ings Bank, afterwards known as the Moline Trust and Savings Bank, then just organized, and held that position until June 30, 1900, when he was elected acting cashier of the bank. The following January, Mr. Anderson was regularly elected cashier. In this capacity he still serves. The assets of the bank, with which he is connected, have increased from $700,000 to one and one-half million dollars since he assumed the aforesaid office.

Mr. Anderson is not connected with any religious denomination, but attends the Unitarian church. He is a public spirited citizen and takes an active part in all matters of interest to the city and public in general. He is prominent in fraternal and club circles, stands high in the Masonic brotherhood and has been vice-president of the Moline Club. Three times 1893, 1899 and 1903, he has been elected treasurer of the city of Moline and has served continuously since 1895 on the public library board, having been twice elected to the presidency. He is a Republican and has always affiliated with that party, still he is not a man that would hesitate to vote for a good man on any other ticket in the event that the corresponding Republican candidate in his opinion were unworthy of trust.

Dec. 16, 1891, Mr. Anderson was married to Miss Sena Nielsen, daughter of Lars Peter Nielsen, a well known real estate dealer of Moline. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Anderson is brightened by the presence of a son, Frederic Nielsen, born in 1903.

CARL PETER BOHMAN

was born in Mörlunda, Småland, Sweden, Aug. 19, 1847. His



CARL PETER BOHMAN

parents, C. M. Carlson, a laborer, and his wife, Clara Peterson, bestowed on their son the ordinary schooling.

Mr. Bohman emigrated in 1867, going to Rockford, where he lived for six years, subsequently locating permanently in Moline, in 1873. Here his parents passed away, the father in 1887 and the mother in 1896.

Shortly after removing to Moline, Mr. Bohman obtained employment in the hardware store of Reid and Witter, and has remained with that same firm for thirty years.

Nov. 18, 1871, Mr. Bohman was married to Maria L. Carlson,

born in Småland, Sweden, May 22, 1850. Their children are: William R., born in 1873; Selma L., born in 1875; Carl E., born in 1878; Esther E., born in 1882; Oscar T., born in 1884, and Clarence, born in 1893. Mrs. Bohman passed away at Moline, Jan. 25, 1901, and one son, Joseph G., died in December of the same year. William R. Bohman was employed at the Augustana Book Concern in Rock Island for seventeen years and is now a successful farmer at Oakland, Neb. He is married to Miss Ellen Lindblom. Carl E. is manager of the New York City branch of the same publishing house. His wife's name was Emily Lilja. Oscar T. is teller and bookkeeper in the Moline Trust and Savings Bank.

The elder Bohman is a member of the Swedish Lutheran Church and has served on its board of deacons for eighteen years and taught in its Sunday school for three decades. Mr. Bohman is a property owner in both Moline and Rock Island.

GUST ED,

a prominent contractor of Moline, was born in Sweden, Dec. 8, 1850. Emigrating in 1872, he settled in Moline, where he has lived ever since. Twenty-two years ago he engaged in the business of building contractor and since then has erected most of the large buildings in the city. At times he has had as high as two hundred men in his employ. Of late years his sons have been associates in the business. Mr. Ed is financially interested in various enterprises, including the Moline Furniture



GUST ED

Company and the East Moline Brick Company, and is president of the Moline Manufacturing Company. He was married Aug. 30, 1873, to Miss Helen Christine Anderson. The family belongs to the Mission Tabernacle.

EMIL ALEXIUS EDLÉN,

physician and surgeon, was born July 14, 1859, at Kungslena, Vestergötland, Sweden, where his parents, Anders Fredrikson and Anna Maria Bengtson, are still living on their farm. In Sweden, after finishing common school, he entered military service and after two years was graduated in 1880, with the highest honors, from the Karlsborg military school. The same year he left for the United States, and lived in Moline for four years. In 1884 he entered

Augustana College and graduated with the class of 1888. As a student he was flutist and clari-



EMIL ALEXIUS EDLÉN

netist of the college band and orchestra, conducted the college choir for one year and for five years before and after graduation was instructor in gymnastics at the institution.

From Augustana Mr. Edlén went to the State University of Minnesota. After taking one year in the medical department, he spent a year studying the sciences at Augustana, then returned to the university, graduating in June, 1892. Having been admitted to practice, he located in St. Paul, but in December of the same year removed to Moline, where he has been engaged in the practice of medicine and surgery for upwards of fifteen years.

Dr. Edlén is a member of the staff of the Moline Public Hospital and of the adjunct staff of St. Anthony's Hospital in Rock Island and the Mercy Hospital in Davenport, Iowa. He belongs to the Rock Island County Medical Association, the Illinois State Medical Society and the American Medical Association. He is chief medical director of the North Star Benefit Association and examiner for a number of insurance companies and societies, serves on the public library board, for three years was commanding officer of the Moline Naval Reserves and is first vice-president and a director of the Rock Island Tropical Plantation Company.

Dr. Edlén was united in marriage to Miss Hulda Lindgren of Minneapolis, July 2, 1892. They have two daughters, Anna Viola Carolina, born 1893, and Olga Elizabeth Wilhelmina, born 1897. The family is connected with the Swedish Lutheran Church.

Dr. Edlén early showed literary ability, frequently contributing verse to newspapers and periodicals. As a medical man he has written a number of treatises, many of which have appeared in scientific journals, for instance: in the *New York Medical Journal*—"Tuberculosis, with Special Reference to Its Prevention and Treatment," and "Ulcers of the Leg;" in the *Medical Age*—"Observations on Influenza," being a paper read before the Iowa and Illinois Central District Medical Association; in the *Illinois Medical Journal*—"Diptheria and Its Management," "Psychotherapeutics," a paper read before the Illinois

State Medical Society, and "Colles's Fracture;" in the *New Albany (Ind.) Medical Journal*—"Summer Diarrhea in Children." Several of these articles have been reprinted or commented upon in scientific journals in Europe, such as *La Presse Medicale* and *Deutsche Medicinische Wochenschrift*.

Hulda C. Edlén, wife of Dr. Edlén, was born in Skirö parish, Småland, Sweden, Oct 27, 1864. She was given careful training and a good education by her parents, Carl A. Lindgren, a gentleman farmer and grain merchant, and his wife Albertina, née Oijström. Besides public school she was taught languages and music by private teachers and later took general studies at a private boarding school for girls. She came to the United States in 1886 and the following year obtained a position as copyist, translator and interpreter in the office of the register of deeds in the Hennepin county court house at Minneapolis. This position she held until a short time before her marriage in 1892. Mrs. Edlén possesses literary talent and has contributed occasionally to *Hvetland-Posten* in Sweden and to *Svenska Folkets Tidning*, *Ungdomsvännen* and other newspapers and periodicals in this country. She is a member of, and has held various offices in the following societies: the Veronica Society of the Swedish Lutheran Church of Moline, the Ladies' Foreign Missionary Society, the Swedish Literary Club, the North Star Benefit Association, the Court of Honor, The Loyal Americans and the Ladies' Independent Order of of Svithiod. She is also a member of the Woman's Club of Moline, and has served for some time on the Woman's Hospital Board.

JAN MAGNUS BONGGREN

was born Aug. 26, 1862, Håbol, Dalsland, Sweden. He was educated at a teacher's seminary, a military academy, and a school of technology. He is a photographer by occupation and has devoted some time to journalism, and writes occasional correspondences to the newspapers. He has no affiliations with churches or fraternal organizations. Mr. Bonggren is a brother of Jakob Bonggren, editor of Svenska Amerikanaren.



JAN MAGNUS BONGGREN

FREDERICK GRAFLUND,

who was the first Swedish dentist in the Tri-Cities, located in Mo-



FREDERICK GRAFLUND

line in Jan. 1903, and opened a dental office here April 1, the same year. He is a native of Karlstad, Sweden, where he was born Nov. 26, 1877. On his sixteenth birthday in 1892, he came to the United States, after having attended elementary schools in Kristinehamn and Kristianstad. He started working in the dental office of Dr. P. Wm. Thorelius in Chicaga, in November of that year, remaining as his assistant till May 1, 1900, when he opened his own office in Lake View, having previously completed the courses at the Northwestern University Dental School, formerly American College of Dental Surgery, which he entered in the fall of 1895, graduating in 1898 with high standing in a class of 177 members. He is of the Pro-

testant Episcopal faith and served for some years as secretary of the St. Ansgar Church of Moline. He is a member of the Royal Arcanum and was guide in the Monitor Council 1414 of that order in 1900, while living in Chicago.

CARL A. HEMBORG,

pastor of the Swedish Lutheran Church of Moline for a long term of years before his removal to Nebraska, was born in Hemsjö, Småland, Sweden, Feb. 3, 1847. His father, Anders Jönsson, was a farmer. The son pursued collegiate studies at Vexiö from 1865 to 1870 and, emigrating in 1871, continued his studies at Augustana



CARL AUGUST HEMBORG

College, then located at Paxton, Ill., from 1871 to 1874, taking a theological course fitting him for the ministry in the Augustana Synod. He was ordained in Rockford June 28, 1874, and has had

charge of congregations in Dayton, Iowa, 1874–92, in Gowrie, Iowa, 1874–77, in Moline from 1892 to 1904, when he resigned to assume pastoral charge at Stromsburg, Neb. While in Iowa, he served as president of the Iowa Conference for six years from 1886 and, after coming to Moline, was elected president of the Illinois Conference in 1903. The degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred upon him in 1902 by Augustana College.

Dr. Hemborg is a devoted amateur astronomer and is the author of two books, "Ord, Verk och Hvila," and "Glimpses of the Stars," consisting of original thoughts and phantasies, partly scientific, partly devotional, based on astronomical and biblical data.

Feb. 2, 1877, Rev. Hemborg married Miss Jennie Ryden, of Bernadotte, Minn., born Feb. 8, 1859. She is the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. C. M. Ryden. Of seven children born to Dr. and Mrs. Hemborg, the following six are living: Constans Alexis, born 1877; Carl Robert Philip, 1884; Claudia Sophia, 1886; Emma Evelyn, 1896; Harold Benjamin, 1899; Richard Edwin, 1904.

ANDREW G. JOHNSON

was born in Ljungby parish, Småland, Sweden, Dec. 25, 1857, the son of Johannes Jönsson, a farmer. His father died in 1889 and his mother, Anna Christina Andersson, in 1904, both in Sweden. The son enjoyed instruction privately and in a pension school up to fifteen years of age, when he left for America and came to Chicago to live. Entering the Northwestern Academy at Evanston he



ANDREW G. JOHNSON

continued through the Swedish M. E. Theological Seminary, graduating from the latter in 1878. After his ordination he has been stationed in the following places, viz., Minneapolis, 1878; New York, 1881; St. Paul, 1885; Galesburg, 1890; Bethany Church, Chicago, 1892–93; Moline, 1901–04; St. Paul, 1904–07.

When transferred to Chicago in 1892, Rev. Johnson was chosen financial agent of the Bethany Home, erected in Ravenswood the same year with money solicited by him. In July, 1893, he took charge of the Swedish M. E. Book Concern as publishing agent and manager and filled that position for eight years, ridding the business of debt and conducting it in a successful manner.

After leaving Moline in 1904,

Rev. Johnson has traveled extensively in the states and preached wherever opportunity offered. He is now the publisher and editor of the *Royal Star*, a monthly magazine, with office at St. Paul, Minn.

Wherever Rev. Johnson has had pastoral charge, he has put forth great effort to increase his flock and place the property and church finances in good shape, with very satisfactory results in every instance.

The family of Rev. Johnson consists of a wife, Selma C. Johnson of Chicago, born Aug. 12, 1867. and the children, Roy D. G., born 1890; Clarence, 1891; Walter L. Y., 1899; Paul Wesley, 1902, and Evelyn Phoebe May, 1906.

During the twenty-eight years Rev. Johnson has been a member of the Central Swedish Conference, he has been secretary or treasurer almost the whole time.

GEORGE W. JOHNSON,

president and treasurer of the Moline Furniture Works, is a native of Henry county, Ill., where his parents, Sven P. Johnson and Christina Peterson, were early settlers. He was born Oct. 9, 1857, and received his early education in the common schools. In September, 1889, his father, who was a prosperous farmer, died, and not long afterward the sons, George and Julius, began to devote themselves to other pursuits than agriculture. George soon made his home in Moline and engaged in business. He became interested in the manufacture of furniture by associating himself with other of his country-



GEORGE W. JOHNSON

men in a cooperative plant now known as the Moline Furniture Works. The concern for several years led a precarious existence, but by the substantial financial backing furnished by Mr. Johnson and others the enterprise was put on its legs and is now in a prosperous condition and enjoying constant growth, due in great measure to the business acumen and intelligent management of Mr. Johnson who is the executive head of the establishment.

Taking an active interest in political affairs, Mr. Johnson has won preferment at different times. During President Harrison's adminstration he held the office of postmaster at Orion, Ill. and by the people of his present district he was twice elected to the state legislature, serving in the forty-

first and forty-second General Assembly.

May 31, 1882, Mr. Johnson was united in marriage to Caroline F. Hagg of Henry county, born Nov. 21, 1858. In the family four children have been born, a daughter, who died, and the three sons: C. Mauritz, born July 11, 1885, Estey E., Dec. 21, 1887, and George Franklin, May 29, 1895. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are devoted members of the Swedish Lutheran Church of Moline.

LAWRENCE A. JOHNSTON,

minister of the Augustana Synod and present pastor of the Swedish



LAWRENCE ALBERT JOHNSTON

Lutheran Church of Moline, is a native American of Swedish descent. His parents, Fredrick J. Johnson, a carpenter and building contractor, and Charlotte Johnson, both from Hessleby, Småland, Sweden, were among the earliest settlers in the East. They emigrated to America in 1846, bound for New Sweden, Ia., but lack of funds cut their journey short at Buffalo, where they remained two years before locating permanently at Sugar Grove, Pennsylvania.

Here Rev. L. A. Johnston was born Aug. 12, 1855. He attended the public school, had private instruction in music during four years, and attended high school for three years before entering Augustana College (at Paxton) in 1874, graduated from that institution (at Rock Island) in 1879, and was the valedictorian of his class. As a student he gave private lessons in music and earlier served as organist of the Swedish Lutheran Church of Chandlers Valley, Pennsylvania.

After two years of study in the theological seminary of the same institution, he was ordained minister in the spring of 1881. His first pastoral charge after ordination was at Des Moines, 1881–1886; the next at Rockford, 1886–1894; the third at St. Paul, 1894–1904, and the last at Moline, 1904 to the present.

Rev. Mr. Johnston has frequently been called to positions of trust and responsibility in the church he serves and has been active in varied fields, as shown by the following list of offices held by him: president of the Bethania Pub. Co. and associate editor of *Bethania*, bi-monthly religious organ of the Iowa Conference; vice-president of that conference in 1886; vice-president

of the Illinois Conference 1891–94; elected president the latter year, but resigned on leaving Rockford; member of the board of directors of the Augustana Hospital 1905–1908, of the Augustana Book Concern continuously from its organization, of Augustana College since 1893, being chairman 1893–94 and 1905, of Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, Minn., and president of the board, 1895–98, again a member 1902–04, of the Bethesda Hospital in St. Paul, 1895–98 and chairman of the board for three years, vice-president of the Minnesota Conference 1902–1904 and of the deaconess Institute of Omaha 1904–05. Furthermore, he has served on the mission board of the Augustana Synod, has acted as associate editor of *Ungdomsvännen* for several years, and is at present vice-president of the Augustana Synod and Swedish secretary of the General Council of the Lutheran Church of America for a two year term, 1905–07.

In 1901 the board of directors of Augustana College and Theological Seminary conferred upon Rev. Johnston the honorary degree of D. D. In 1903 he published a little book entitled, "Be Thou Faithful, Words of Advice, Comfort and Cheer to the Confirmed."

Dr. Johnston is often heard from the public platform. He has made a large number of addresses on temperance and on topics of especial interest to young people, and has spoken at numerous church conventions and public meetings, also lecturing on historical, patriotic, social and economic subjects. One of his most noteworthy discourses was on "The Swedish Element in American Civilization," delivered before the General Synod Chautauqua Assembly at Dixon, Ill. Dr. Johnston has perfect mastery of both the Swedish and the English languages and is held one of the foremost Swedish-American pulpit orators.

JOHN A. JÄDER,

former pastor of the local Baptist church, was born in Rytterne, Swe-



JOHN A. JÄDER

den, Nov. 2, 1849 and came over to this country and to Moline, in 1902. He served for thirteen years as a non-commissioned officer in the Swedish army. After studying theology at a Baptist seminary he was ordained minister and has served in that capac-

ity in Sweden and the United States. Since 1905 he has been stationed at Lindsborg, Kansas. He has published several works and has contributed largely to the religious press. He was married in 1870, to Charlotta Ohlson, the fruits of the union being nine children, seven sons, Carl, Axel, David, Edwin, Filip, Fabian and Gustaf, and two daughters, Anna and Maria.

FRANK A. LANDEE,

well-known merchant and a member of the Forty-fifth General



FRANK. A. LANDEE

Assembly of Illinois, was born in Småland, Sweden, Aug. 11, 1852. Both parents having died, Frank, with a younger brother, emigrated in 1866. He worked on the farm in Knox county for the next three years, attending school in the winter months, then took a course at a business college in Galesburg. In 1869 he went to Peoria and was in the employ of the Western Union Telegraph Co. there for two years, up to the time of the great fire in Chicago, when he was transferred to that city and soon made foreman of telegraph construction. After holding a position with the Atlantic and Pacific Telegraph Co. for one year, Landee returned to his former position with the Western Union in 1874. In 1876–77 he was their office electrician in Chicago and in the next two years built telephone exchanges for the company, which was then also in that line of business. It was Landee who put in the first half a hundred telephones in Chicago. He also built exchanges in Peoria, Springfield, Quincy, Rock Island, Moline, Dubuque, Davenport and Keokuk, being one of the pioneers in that line of work.

In 1880, Mr. Landee was appointed superintendent of construction of the Mutual Union, a new telegraph company, and the Baltimore and Ohio Telegraph Co. He served as joint superintendent for a year, then remained two years more with the former. When that concern sold out to the Western Union in 1883, Landee became joint general foreman of the telegraph and electric department of the C. R. I. & P. Railway Co. and the Western Union, with 8,000 miles of railroad, extending into 11 states and 3 territories. He remained with them until 1903, when he resigned to devote himself entirely to private business.

He is the proprietor of a large grocery store; interested in the Moline Furniture Works, being vice-president of the company; also vice-president and treasurer of the Moline Stone Co., and director of the People's Savings and Trust Co. of Moline.

In 1906, Mr. Landee was elected to represent the 33d district in the state senate, having earned the distinction by unrewarded political activity for many years. He has held the office of president of the Swedish-American Republican League of Illinois.

Mr. Landee is chairman of the board of trustees of the Swedish Lutheran Church of Moline, and was a member of the board of directors of Augustana College for eight years. He is chairman of the trustees of the Court of Honor Lodge, a leading member of the Swedish Olive Lodge, I. O. O. F., and chairman of the committee in charge of the construction of its $50,000 building, and was chairman of the trustees of the Olive Lodge for several years. He is a member of the Moline Club, Moline Business Association, Moline Retail Merchants' Association, the Telegraphers' Mutual Association and the North Star Benefit Association, of which he was chief treasurer for six years.

Five patents have been granted on electrical devices invented by Mr. Landee and are now in practical use. Several inventions and improvements made by him but not patented are generally used by telegraph and telephone companies. Two of these, in particular, ought to have brought their inventor substantial returns.

In 1879, April 9, Mr. Landee married Miss Hanna Johnson, born March 9, 1858, daughter of A. M. and Charlotte Johnson, of Knoxville. The children in the Landee family are: Effie L., born in 1880, deceased; George Edward, born in 1882; Frank J. born in 1884; Marion H. C., born in 1886; Anna Irene, born in 1892. George Edward is married to Alma Swenson of Moline. The Landees reside at 1207 Fifth avenue.

ALBERT J. LYDEHN,

who has been established in Moline for eight years as a druggist, is a native of the city, being born here July 7, 1876. His father, Andrew P. Lydehn, died in 1900.

Albert attended the public school; later he took a course in chemistry at Augustana College and completed his studies with a regular course in pharmacy at the Northwestern University, being graduated from that institution.

He is a member of the Moline Naval Militia and the apothecary of that organization.

Mr. Lydehn has traveled extensively in Sweden, Norway, Denmark, France, Germany and England.

ANDREW J. LYON

was born in Torpa parish, Östergötland, Sept. 12, 1860. Coming to America in 1882 he lived for five years near Galesburg, where

he worked on a farm. From there he came to Moline and was employed as a mason's apprentice



ANDREW J. LYON

until he had mastered the trade, when he started in business for himself as a brick and stone masonry contractor. Since the spring of 1907 he has been farming in Illinois City, Rock Island county.

Mr. Lyon was married in May, 1890, in Moline, to Maria Gustafva Anderson, who is now the mother of seven children, three sons and four daughters.

JOHN P. MILLER,

present pastor of the Swedish M. E. Church of Moline, was born in Sjösäter, Örtomta parish, Östergötland, Sweden, Sept. 4, 1866. Equipped with a common school education, he left his home for America at the age of twenty. His parents, Jonas Pehrsson, a farmer, and his wife, Anna Lovisa Johnson, are still living in the old country.

Mr. Miller lived in Des Moines, Ia., for the next three years, holding a position with the F. O. Wennerberg grocery firm. He left there in 1889 to pursue studies fitting him for the ministry. Entering the Swedish Theological Seminary at Evanston, he continued there for three years, and afterward took one year at Knox College, Galesburg. Having graduated from the Evanston institution in 1892, he was ordained minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Moline in September of that year, by Bishop R. S. Foster. His subsequent pastoral



JOHN P. MILLER

charges have been at Kewanee, Victoria and Bloomington, before coming to Moline.

Rev. Miller was married Oct. 3, 1894, to Miss Hilda S. Eklund of Kewanee, born Nov. 10, 1872, in the city of Borås, Sweden, where her parents are still living.

ADOLPH G. NELSON,

pastor of the Free Mission Church, was born at Bomåla,



ADOLPH GOTTFRID NELSON

Morlunda parish, Småland, Aug. 22, 1870. The parents were farmers. His father, Nils Fredrik Högren, died in the old home in 1882. The son emigrated to the United States in the spring of 1888 and located in Beresford, S. D., whither his mother followed him, passing away at that place in 1898.

Having obtained an elementary education in the school of his native place Mr. Nelson, after working some time as a wage earner in this country, began to fit himself for the Gospel ministry. After completing a course of study he became a preacher of the Free Mission church. Since that time he has been stationed at Beresford, S. D., for three years, at Omaha for a like period, and at Moline for the past three years and over. Prior to that Rev. Nelson labored for seven years as a traveling evangelist.

Oct. 10, 1895, Rev. Nelson was married to Miss Alma Young of Cherokee, Iowa, born Nov. 28, 1871. A son, Elving Abraham Emanuel, was born to them at Beresford, in 1897.

JOHANNES PETERSON,

manufacturer of pianos and organs, was born in Gräsmark parish,



JOHANNES PETERSON

Vermland, Sweden, and emigrated in 1868. After his arrival in this country he at first lived in Lindsborg, Kas., before coming to Moline. Having studied for three years at Augustana College, he entered practical life. We soon find him engaged in the manufacture of reed organs, a business which has gradually grown to large proportions. Not many years ago the firm of J. Peterson Co. took

up the manufacture of pianos. While the bulk of the trade is in the United States, yet they have quite an extensive foreign trade, shipping instruments to the Scandinavian countries, all Europe, East India, China, Africa and South America. The company takes pride in the fact that the first parlor organs ever used in Porto Rico were of their make. A few years ago the growth of business made extensions to the factory necessary and the company now has a three story structure covering one quarter of a block. Mr. Peterson is a member of the Swedish Lutheran Church.

G. LEANDER PETERSON,

president of the North Star Benefit Association, with head office at Moline, was born on a farm in Henry county, near Swedona, Dec. 24, 1864. His grandparents were the third Swedish family that settled in Mercer county. He has studied at Augustana and at the Davenport Business College. In the early nineties he was associated with Ernst W. Olson, G. A. Gustafson and Julius Johnson in publishing *Nya Pressen*, a Swedish weekly newspaper, at Moline and later at Chicago. For two terms he served as assistant clerk of the House of Representatives at Springfield. He is a member of the Emanuel Swedish Lutheran Church at East Moline, having acted as secretary and trustee.

Mr. Peterson is a man of varied activities as shown by the number of positions of trust to which he has been chosen. Thus he was for a term of years secretary



G. LEANDER PETERSON

and later president of the North Star Benefit Association, a fraternal insurance association; is president of the Svea Male Chorus of Moline; has been president of the Western Division of the American Union of Swedish Singers; has served on the board of directors of Augustana College and Theological Seminary; has served for a number of years as president of the board of trustees of the Augustana University Association; has been vice-president for Rock Island county of the Swedish-American Republican League of Illinois, besides being one of its organizers, and secretary of the Rock Island County Central Committee. Mr. Peterson is now president of the Rock Island Tropical Plantation Company.

FRANK W. SHALLENE,

senior member of the firm of Shallene Bros., furniture dealers, was



FRANK WILGOT SHALLENE

born April 7, 1867, at Kotorp, Kinneved, Skaraborgs län, Sweden, where his father, Johannes Carlson, was a farmer. He died at the old homestead in 1882, whereupon the mother, Charlotta, née Back, joined her sons in Moline, where she died in 1902.

Frank Shallene worked for his father on the farm in early life, attending the common school of the parish less than one calendar year. When seventeen years of age, he left the old home, destined for America, arriving in Moline on Midsummer Day, 1884. The first summer he worked on a farm near Geneseo and later obtained employment at common labor with the Moline Wagon Co. The next year he got work at the Union Malleable Iron Works and soon after began learning the molder's trade. The summer of 1889 was spent in Denver, where he worked on the construction of a cable street car line. Returning to Moline he was employed as a molder in various shops until 1903, when, with a little accumulation of savings as a capital, he embarked in the furniture business in partnership with his younger brother, John N. Shallene. In 1906 they abandoned their old quarters and moved into a new four story building, 1513–15 Fifth ave., where they carry a large stock of furniture, carpets, rugs and stoves, and have the largest furniture store in the city.

Sept. 23, 1896, Mr. Shallene married Miss Almina Engdahl, a young lady of Geneseo, born Jan. 27, 1872. Her parents are John and Anna Engdahl. Mr. and Mrs. Shallene have three sons, Wilbert Engdahl, born 1897, Milton Linneus, 1901, and Bertel Rudolph, 1904. Milton L. died Dec. 15, 1906.

The family is connected with the Swedish Luth. Church, and Mr. Shallene, besides, belongs to the Swedish Olive Lodge of I. O. O. F. and the King Philip Tribe of Red Men. He has always been a Republican.

JOHN N. SHALLENE,

junior member of the firm of Shallene Bros., dealers in furniture, was born Dec. 27, 1870, in Kinneved parish, Skaraborgs län, Sweden. Up to the age of fourteen he attended the parish school. Then he accompanied his elder

brother to the United States, and, like him, located in Moline.

After learning the molders' trade at the Union Malleable Iron Co.'s



JOHN NATHANAEL SHALLENE

plant, he was employed at their works and also by the Barnard & Leas Manufacturing Co. of Moline and by the Forbes Manufacturing Co. of Rockford for various periods, until he engaged in the furniture business in 1903.

Mr. Shallene has shown his public spirit by active affiliation with a number of fraternal, political and industrial organizations. He is a member of the I. O. O. F. In 1900 he was chosen Sachem of the Improved Order of Red Men, after having held other offices in the local lodge, and he is now a member of the Past Sachems' Association. Of the Union Protective Aid Association he was the president in 1899 and has served four years on its board of directors. He belongs to the North Star Benefit Association, was Astronomer of the local observatory in 1903 and member of the board of directors for three years. He is an honorary member of the Iron Molders' Union and served as trustee for three years from 1900. He is a member of the Swedish-American Republican Club and has served as its vice-president and treasurer. In the Svea Male Chorus he is a passive member.

His marriage took place June 15, 1905, the bride being Minnie Eveline Nelson, daughter of Peter N. Nelson of Moline. Mrs. Shallene was born Feb. 28, 1877. They are members of the Swedish Lutheran Church.

FRED SUNDEEN

was born Sept. 23, 1860, at Bergsjönäs, Vermland, Sweden,



FRED SUNDEEN

where his parents, Olof and Kajsa Stina Olson, lived on a farm. In 1875 his father died, followed by his wife in 1888. The son was put to work at an early age

and was permitted to attend school only a few weeks out of the year. At twenty-two he left home bound for America and came to Davenport, Ia., in the spring of 1882, locating permanently at Moline in October of the same year. Here he conducted a grocery store for fourteen years, whereupon he changed his line of business and for over four years has been a clothing merchant.

Mr. Sundeen has served two terms on the board of supervisors of Rock Island county. He is well-known in fraternal circles, being a member of the local lodges of the orders of Svithiod, the Vikings, the Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen. He is treasurer of the Freja lodge of Svithiod and of the Mutual Insurance Company.

On May 27, 1886, Mr. Sundeen was united in marriage to Maria Hirsch, born April 7, 1863, daughter of Sven Johan Hirsch of Hvetlanda, Småland. Three daughters have been born to them, namely, Ruby Maria, 1887, Esther Louisa, 1889, and Elvira Almida, 1892.

In 1901 Mr. Sundeen took a vacation from his steady occupation as storekeeper and went on a three months' visit to his native land.

JOHN SUNDINE,

business manager of the Moline Daily *Dispatch* and Moline *Review-Dispatch* is a native of Moline, where he was born July 20, 1876. His parents were Carl Sundine, who was for many years engaged in mercantile business, and Augusta (Johnson) Sundine, who passed away in Moline Oct. 17, 1887.



JOHN SUNDINE

After having obtained an education in the graded and high schools, being employed meanwhile as a newspaper carrier and grocery clerk in his father's store, he began work as a news reporter, first on the Moline *Journal*, then on the *Dispatch*. After a time he became circulation manager on the last named daily, and was later promoted to the position of business manager, which he now holds.

During the Spanish-American War Mr. Sundine served in the navy as fleet printer under Admiral Remey, on board the U. S. S. Lancaster, stationed at Key West. He was also assistant to Flag Secretary Belknap, in the government office at that point.

Mr. Sundine's career has been rapid and his record is clear-cut.

He has been active in politics, but not as yet held any public office. Since he reached the voting age he has been a member of the Republican city central committee, of which he is now chairman. He has been a delegate to every Republican county convention and has served as sergeant-at-arms at the last two Republican national conventions.

He is connected with the following organizations: the Swedish Olive Lodge of Odd Fellows, the Elks, the Svithiod order, the N. S. B. A., the Moline Club and the Chicago Press Club.

The parents of Mr. Sundine are old and devoted members of the Swedish Lutheran Church.

SWAN TROPP,

president of the Moline Stone Co., was born in Grenna parish, Småland, Sweden, Nov. 7, 1841, and had his schooling in the old country. He emigrated in 1868, coming first to Rockford. From there he moved to Moline, where he engaged in the ice and stone business on a small scale. Together with Andrew Shallberg he opened a stone quarry in 1874, drilling by hand and employing two teams in hauling. Shallberg subsequently sold out his share in the business to J. W. Atkinson, he and Tropp now being the sole owners of the Moline Stone Company, which at this time employs steam drills and ships about 200 carloads per month besides all material used in Moline and neighboring cities. The payroll amounts to $3,500 per month. Mr. Tropp also continues in the ice business on his own account. He is married and the pair are members of the Swedish Lutheran Church in Moline.



SWAN TROPP

Mr. Tropp has served as alderman in the city council of Moline for four years.

JOHN ALFRED GODEHN,

assistant postmaster of Moline, was born i Drengsered parish, Halland, Sweden, July 7, 1853. His father, John J. Godehn, who was a farmer and a carpenter, came to America in 1870, and was joined by his son John the following year. They located in Moline, where the father died in 1878 and the mother in 1904. Mr. Godehn's schooling was limited to the common branches taught in the country schools of Sweden. At thirteen he began work on the farm, and since coming to this country he has had no opportunity for study except

in the school of actual life. He began as a common laborer in Moline, then obtained a situation



JOHN ALFRED GODEHN

as a coachman in Rock Island. Returning to Sweden in 1874, he brought back with him his mother and his brother, Carl Henning, in May, 1875. For the next two years he was employed by S. H. Velic as a coachman, and for three summers as a gardner, the winters being spent in the Deere Plow Works. For five years more he had steady employment in this factory, being in charge of the machinery and store supply house in 1884–7. After working as a grocery salesman, Mr. Godehn was for three years, 1887–90, manager of a cooperative grocery store owned by the Swedish Association Kronan. For the same length of time he was associated with C. G. Thulin and John A. Freeman in the retail grocery business. Selling his interest to his copartners in 1893, he next became secretary and collector of the Twin City Ice Co. In 1899 he purchased an interest in the Sylvan Ice Co. and the Moline Ice Co., and held the office of secretary and treasurer until April, 1906, when he entered upon his present duties as assistant postmaster. He still retains his interest in the ice business.

Mr. Godehn is a Republican in politics and is one of the original members of the Swedish-American Republican Club of Moline, in which he has served two terms as president and three as secretary. In 1887 he was elected to the city council and in 1904 on the board of supervisors.

In the Swedish Luth. Church, of which he is a member, Mr. Godehn has been one of the trustees for 11 years and is now serving his twentieth year as secretary. Since 1872, when he joined the church, he has taken an active part in the work of its various organizations.

On Nov. 7, 1888, Mr. Godehn married Miss Anna Mathilda Fredrickson of Chicago, born March 7, 1862. They have a family of six children: Johanna Irene Dorothea Ruth, born 1889; Anna Maria Alina, '91; Ruehl Ariel, '92; Esther Agatha, '95; Hedvig Catharina, '97; Selma Alfrida, 1900.

ANDREW G. ANDERSON

was born in Sweden, Dec. 4, 1857, the son of Olof Anderson, a farmer, who with his family emigrated in 1870, settling at Red Wing, Minn. The son ob-

tained his first schooling in the old country, continuing his studies in Red Wing. In 1873, he se-



ANDREW G. ANDERSON

cured a position in the office of *Luthersk Kyrkotidning* where he remained until the next year when he went to Rock Island at the time the *Augustana*, the church organ of the Augustana Synod, was removed from Chicago to the Swedish Lutheran seat of learning. When his first employer sold his business, Mr. Anderson continued with his successors and became a member of the firm of Wistrand, Thulin and Anderson, of Moline. After two years the firm sold out to the publishing board of the Augustana Synod. Mr. Anderson continued as foreman of the printing department until 1889, when he became manager and treasurer of the Augustana Book Concern, an office he has held ever since. Mr. Anderson has served on the board of directors of Augustana College for years, and has been appointed to various other positions of trust. He is a member of Zion Swedish Lutheran Church, where he has served as a deacon and Sunday school superintendent.

On Oct. 26, 1880, he was married to Miss Hilda L. Lindström, daughter of Johan P. Lindström of Moline. Two sons and three daughters have been born to them. His political support Mr. Anderson gives to the Republican party. He has served as alderman of the seventh ward for several terms and his word carried weight in the city council.

CARL JOHAN BENGSTON,

associate editor of *Augustana*, was born July 22, 1862, at Sta



CARL JOHAN BENGSTON

singe, Sweden, where his father, Sven Johan Bengtson followed the tailor's trade. In 1875 the family came to this country and lived

two years in Corry, Pa., afterwards settling in Titusville, where they lived until 1899, when they removed to Jamestown, N. Y. There his mother, Neta Christina, née Andreasson, died in Nov. 1901.

C. J. Bengston attended public school in Sweden and the United States before going to Augustana in 1880. He entered the second class of the academic department in January of that year and graduated with the college class of '88 with the degree of A. B. Two years later he had completed the courses in the Theological Seminary of the same institution and after his ordination became pastor of the Swedish Lutheran church at Hartford, Ct. In August, 1893, he assumed charge of the churches at New Sweden and Upland, in Jefferson co., Ia., remaining in their service until 1900.

Rev. Bengston was secretary of the Iowa Conference 1898–1900, has served as secretary of the Church Extension Society since 1901 and as treasurer of the Augustana Synod since 1902.

In December, 1900, he assumed his present position as associate editor of *Augustana*, the official paper of the Synod. He is a member of the Zion Church of Rock Island, is now serving on the church council and as superintendent of the Sunday school.

Rev. Bengston was a member of the 28th General Assembly of Iowa, from Jefferson county, in 1900. He was married June 4, 1891, to Miss Emilie Otilia Swanson of Jamestown, N. Y., born July 18, 1866.

CARL AUGUST BLOMGREN, professor of Hebrew at Augustana Theological Seminary, was born



CARL AUGUST BLOMGREN

April 1, 1865, at the Solstad mine, in the parish of Misterhult, Småland, Sweden. When he was ten years old the family emigrated, settling in Calumet, Mich., where he attended public schools for the next five winters. In 1880 he entered the third class of the academic department of Augustana and in 1885 graduated from college with the degree of A. B. From that time until 1887 Mr. Blomgren supplied the pulpit of the Swedish Lutheran Church in Lowell, Mass., also pursuing higher studies at Harvard during the school year of 1886–87.

The following fall he entered the Senior class of Augustana Theological Seminary, was graduat-

ed in the spring of 1888 and ordained to the ministry in June 24, the same year, at the synodical meeting in Galesburg. Rev. Blomgren then took pastoral charge of the Swedish Lutheran churches at McKeesport, and Braddock, Pa. In 1890 he assumed the pastorate of Bridgeport and Stamford, Ct. For the next three years, along with his pastoral work, he pursued studies at Yale University, receiving the degree of Ph. D. from that institution in 1893. The following year Dr. Blomgren left his charges in Connecticut to become pastor of the Swedish Lutheran church in Philadelphia where he served from 1894 to 1904. During the years 1895 to 1898 he attended lectures in the Semitic department of the University of Pennsylvania, subsequently serving as instructor in Hebrew at the Mt. Airy Theological Seminary until 1904, when he left Philadelphia to assume a similar position at Augustana Theological Seminary. In 1905, after one year's service to his Alma Mater, Dr. Blomgren was called to occupy the chair of Hebrew as permanent professor. His other subjects are Theological Propædeutics and Biblical Introduction. Dr. Blomgren has written a work entitled "The Elements of the Christian Religion."

At Lowell, Mass., Feb. 13, 1889, Dr. Blomgren was united in marriage with Miss Sigrid Amalia Söderberg. Their children are three in number: Sigfrid Luther, born 1892, Svanhild Anna Margareta, 1895, and Mildred Hildegard Ione, 1899.

ANDERS OLOF BERSELL

Prof. A. O. Bersell, deceased, occupied the chair of Greek at



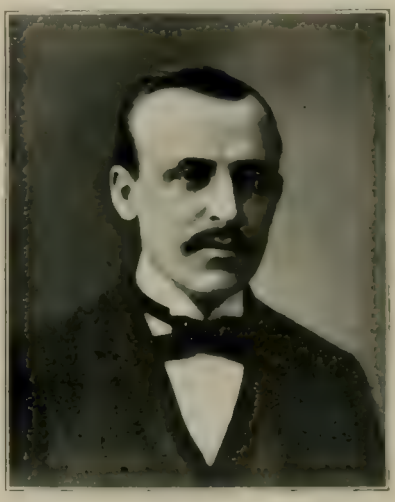
ANDERS OLOF BERSELL

Augustana College from the year 1880 until his death. He was born in the village of Utmeland, Mora parish, May 16, 1853. His first instruction was received in the public school of the parish. In 1868 he took a course in a normal school, subsequently teaching for four years in his home districts. At nineteen he resumed his studies and was graduated from college at Upsala in 1877. After serving as tutor for a year he returned to Upsala in order to pursue philosophical studies. He took the degree of Ph. Cand., after two years at the university, whereupon he became instructor in a mission school in Stockholm conducted by "Evangeliska Fos-

terlandsstiftelsen." In 1880 he received two calls from America simultaneously, one from Gustavus Adolphus College at St. Peter, Minn., the other from Augustana, to become professor of Greek and German. He accepted the latter, and entered upon his duties in the fall of the same year. Besides Greek and German, he taught at different times Swedish, Latin, Philosophical Propaedeutics and religious subjects, his main subject, the Greek language and literature, eventually demanding a monopoly of his time and energy. He is the author of a Greek textbook, entitled, "Notes to Greek Grammar," also a first and second reader for the Swedish parochial schools, besides having done much literary work in the way of editing or contributing to the newspapers *Augustana*, *Ungdomsvännen* and *Hemvännen*, editing Christmas books for the young and translating juvenile stories from the Swedish and German languages. In 1894 the degree and title of Ph. D. was conferred on Prof. Bersell by the institution he so long served. He was a devoted churchman and served as a deacon in the Swedish Lutheran church of Moline and afterwards for many years in the Zion Church of Rock Island. He died Dec. 16, 1903, leaving a wife, Uma Bersell, née Lagerlund, and 12 children.

OLOF Z. CERVIN,

architect of the Augustana Synod, was born in Paxton, Ill., Oct. 18, 1868. His father was Rev. A. R. Cervin, Ph. D., for many years professor of Greek and mathematics at Augustana College



OLOF Z. CERVIN

and a pioneer in the spiritual and intellectual work among the Swedes of America. His mother's maiden name was Emma Thulin, sister to C. G. Thulin, treasurer of the Augustana Synod for a long term of years.

In 1887 Mr. Cervin graduated from Augustana College, and thereafter spent a year on the actual construction of buildings in Ishpeming and Houghton, Mich. After training for a few years with architects in Chicago and Rock Island, he entered Columbia College and in 1904 took the degree of Master of Arts, having written a "History of Colonial Architecture." This has been printed in two different publications.

After spending a year in a New York office he located in the twin

cities of Rock Island and Moline, Ill. Here he has erected a large number of buildings, among which are the Augustana Book Concern, a fireproof building, and the D., R. I. & N. W. Ry. station of Moline and Rock Island, also the Industrial Home, the Tabernacle of the Mission Friends, three large school buildings, Moline Wagon Co.'s warehouse and a number of factories and business buildings as well as residences in Moline and elsewhere, including specimens of Mexican, colonial and other styles of architecture. A six-story fireproof reinforced concrete office building has been erected in Rock Island from the plans of Mr. Cervin, being the first of its kind in that part of the country.

In 1896 he was appointed official church architect of the Augustana Synod. Since this time he has planned many churches, among which are those of Lake Park, Minn., Orion and Belvidere, Ill., Savonburg, Kans., Worcester, Mass., and Wausa, Neb. He has also planned the Orphans' Homes or additions to their old buildings in Andover, Ill., Vasa, Minn., Omaha, Neb., and Stanton, Ia.

Besides the history mentioned, he has written a historical sketch of the Spanish-Mexican Mission in California, which was published in an architectural journal in September, 1903, and a review of the church architecture of the Swedes in America, published in *Prärieblomman* for 1902.

It is needless to add that with such antecedents and a training of the kind his parents gave him, Mr. Cervin is deeply interested in the spiritual, intellectual and material prosperity of the Swedes in this country, wherever they may be located.

In recent years Mr. Cervin has made two European trips, principally for the study of architecture in Italy, but also visiting France, Germany, Holland, Denmark, Norway and Sweden.

JOHN G. DAHLBERG

came to the United States at the age of twenty-two from



JOHN G. DAHLBERG

Hvetlanda, Småland, Sweden where he was born March 28, 1862. Having worked as a farmhand for a couple of years, he was enrolled at Augustana College in 1882 and graduated with the class of 1889. Two years later he was graduated from the Augustana Seminary and ordained as a minister of the Gospel at the synodical meeting at

Chisago Lake, Minn. His first pastoral charge was the Swedish Lutheran Church of Altona, Ill., where he served 1891–99. He was then elected pastor of the Zion Swedish Lutheran Church of Rock Island in 1899 and served until 1905.

In 1891 he married Miss Emilia C. Envall of Galesburg, who died in November, 1892, after giving birth to a son, Carl Johan Emil. In 1898 Rev. Dahlberg married Miss Josephine Nelson, daughter of Swan Nelson of Altona. In this union he has two daughters, Florence Emilia Josephine, and Mildred Clara Olivia.

During the academic year of 1889–90, Rev. Dahlberg was assistant teacher of Swedish at his Alma Mater and was called to the chair of Swedish Language and Literature in 1893, but declined. The institution later conferred on him the degree of A. M. He was elected professor of Christianity at Augustana College and served for a short period, resigning in 1906.

Rev. Dahlberg is a member of the board of directors of Augustana College and has served several years as secretary and one year as president of that body; he was secretary of the Illinois Conference 1897–1902, member of the board of missions of the Augustana Synod 1899–1902, acting as its treasurer in 1899–1900 and secretary in 1901, and was elected secretary of the Synod in 1903, being reelected in 1905 and 1907. Since 1901 he has edited *Korsbaneret*, a devotional and historical annual publication of the Augustana Synod.

NILS FORSANDER,

professor of Church History, Symbolics, etc., in Augustana Theo-



NILS FORSANDER

logical Seminary, was born at Gladsax, Skåne, Sweden, Sept. 11, 1846. He first studied at the public college at Lund and subsequently at a private college in the same city. During the summer of 1870, he met Rev. T. N. Hasselquist, who was visiting Sweden, and the following fall accompanied him to Paxton, Ill., where he completed the theological course required for entering the ministry of the Augustana Synod. During the illness of Prof. A. J. Lindström in the spring term of 1871, Forsander taught his Latin and Greek classes. He was ordained minister in 1873 and, since that time, has had charge of the Swedish Lutheran congregations

in Aledo, Sagetown and Raritan, Ill., 1873–75, Kossuth, Ia., 1875–80, and the Bethesda Church in Page county, Ia., 1880–90. At different times during this period he acted as secretary of the Illinois and Iowa Conferences and of the Augustana Synod in 1887–90.

In the fall of 1889 he was called as acting professor in the Augustana Theological Seminary and in the following year was made regular professor, in which capacity he has taught and lectured in Church History, Symbolics, Isagogics, Homiletics, Pastoral Theology and Apologetics. In 1894 Rev. Forsander was given the honorary degree of D. D. by the trustees of the institution with which he is connected. In 1907, King Oscar II conferred upon him the order of the North Star. Upon his 60th birthday anniversary, Dr. Forsander's former students presented him with a bust of Olaus Petri, by Jean Le Veau.

As a theological writer Dr. Forsander has contributed both to the Swedish and the English literature of the Lutheran Church. While a young man he began by translating hymns from German to Swedish. Since then he has written for *Augustana*, *Luthersk Qvartalskrift*, *Ungdomsvännen*, *Korsbaneret*, *The Lutheran*, *The Lutheran Church Review*, *The Independent* and other periodicals. He is one of the editors of a Swedish-English theological quarterly, "*Tidskrift för teologi och kyrkliga frågor.*" For *Kyrkohistorisk årsskrift* he has written a historical sketch of the Augustana Synod and for the "Lutheran Encyclopœdia" most of the articles on the Lutheran Church in Sweden. As a member of the editorial staff of *Augustana* and *Hemvännen* he contributed articles and stories to these papers. From the German he has translated quite extensively and has written a commentary on the unaltered Augsburg Confession, which has been published in two editions.

Dr. Forsander is a diligent student and has accumulated an extensive library, especially rich in theological literature.

Jan. 6, 1875, Dr. Forsander, then pastor of the Sagetown church, was united in marriage with Miss Johanna Charlotta Ahlgren of Burlington, Ia., born Aug. 4, 1852.

CLAUDE W. FOSS,

professor of History at Augustana College, was born in Geneva, Kane county, Ill., Aug. 28, 1855. His parents, Carl Johan and Charlotte Christine Foss, arrived in Chicago from Habo parish, Vestergötland, Sweden, in the summer of 1854. They settled in Geneva, Ill., but removed to Goodhue co., Minn., in 1858. His early training was obtained in the public schools and at the Red Wing Collegiate Institute. After having engaged in the work of a public school teacher for four years, he entered Augustana College in the the fall of 1879. Here he was graduated with the degree of B. A. in June, 1883, having also pursued studies of the scientific course.

In 1884 he was called to the chair of History and Political Science at Augustana College. In



CLAUDE W. FOSS

1888 he was elected vice-president of the institution, serving in that capacity until 1900. On the death of Dr. Hasselquist, he served as acting president until the election of Dr. Olsson as president in 1891. He continued to hold the position of vice-president under the entire presidency of Dr. Olsson, and upon the death of the latter, he was again appointed acting president, which position he held until June, 1901, when Dr. Gustav Andreen was elected president. Since that time he has devoted himself more exclusively to his chair and literary work.

The degree of Ph. D. was conferred on him by Augustana College in 1900. He is a member of the American Institute of Civics, the American Academy of Political and Social Science, the American Historical Association and the Sw.-American Historical Society.

In politics he is a Republican, and takes a lively interest in all political matters, local, state and national.

Aug. 2, 1887, Dr. Foss was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Margaret Shuey of Augusta co., Virginia, born Feb. 14, 1863. They have no children, but an orphan niece, Martha Foss, fills the place of a daughter in their home. They are members of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church of Rock Island.

JOHN P. ENGSTRÖM,

manager of the Rock Island Wood Works, was born in Floda parish, Dalarne, Sweden, Aug. 4, 1859. At the age of twenty he came to the United States, locating first in Minneapolis. After working for a time as a cabinetmaker, he became foreman of the Bardwell & Robinson factory, a position he was able to fill creditably by reason of having taken a course in the sloyd school at Falun, Sweden. From Minneapolis he removed to Rock Island to become the mechanical head of the Wood Works in this city.

Mr. Engström was married in 1884 to Lizzie Engström; they have two daughters, Edith Eleonora and Maria Victoria, and a son, Frans Waldemar.

Mr. Engström is a member of the order of Modern Woodmen of America, the Elks, and the Independent Order of Svithiod.

CARL OTTO GRANERE,

librarian of Augustana College, was born in Granhult, Högsby



CARL OTTO GRANERE

parish, Småland, Sweden, Sept. 27, 1844. Having begun his studies at a preparatory school in Mörlunda, he later pursued a classical college course first in Linköping and then in Stockholm, where he was graduated in 1870. In compliance with a special invitation or call, he came to Augustana College and Theological Seminary, at that time located at Paxton, Ill., in the fall of 1870, arriving there on the anniversary of his birthday. Under the instruction and guidance of Dr. T. N. Hasselquist, he completed the prescribed theological course and graduated in May, 1871. At this time he was called as assistant professor at Augustana College and entered upon his duties as such the following September. He was ordained at Galesburg in 1872, and was called as regular professor of Latin and Swedish in 1873. During the years 1872–1876 he served also as assistant instructor in Church History and Doctrinal Theology at Augustana Seminary. He was regular professor of the Latin language and literature at Augustana College during the years 1873–1898, in the meantime also serving for many years both as secretary of the Faculty and as vice-president. In June, 1896, the Board of Directors conferred upon him the degree of Ph. D., and in 1898 they appointed him librarian of the institution.

Having lost his first wife, Sophia Albertina Wiborg, who died in May, 1883, Dr. Granere married his second wife, Marie Thomason, the 25th of Dec., 1887, and has had with her five children, four of whom are still living: Ruth Mirjam, Carl Emanuel, Helga Johanna and Hortensia Linnea.

OLOF GRAFSTRÖM,

head of the art department of Augustana College, is a painter of international renown. Both as a teacher of art and as a creative artist he has done much to develop the art instinct of the Swedish-American public. Grafström hails from the northern part of Sweden. This might almost be inferred from the stern and serious, not to say majestic tone of his landscapes. The never to be forgotten memories of the grandeur of the north have impressed their hall-

mark upon his art. In the southern part of the province of Medelpad Olof Grafström was born



OLOF GRAFSTRÖM

June 11, 1855; here he imbibed with the very atmosphere his great love of that land whose beauties he never tires of reproducing on canvas. Prof. Grafström is a member of the same family that has given Sweden two poets of renown. He is the son of the late C. P. Grafström of Attmar, who was judge of the district court and a man of oldfashioned integrity and honor. The son at an early age showed a talent for drawing and sketching, but took no interest whatever in the contents of the traditional green bag. Regardless of the boy's proclivities, the parents predestined him to the occupation of a farmer and, in order to give him an education beyond that bestowed by the common school, he was sent to the high school at Näfsta. There his talents were noticed, and Dr. Olof Wikström, then chairman of the school board, prevailed upon his the father to let the son devote himself to that career, for which he was most fitted. This led to his enrollment in 1875, at the age of 19, in the Academy of Fine Arts at Stockholm. His studies completed, he was graduated with the class in painting in 1882. Among his contemporaries at the art academy were many Swedish painters who subsequently won fame, such as Zorn, Liljefors, Bergh, Tirén, Kindborg and von Saltza.

From now on Grafström devoted himself to landscape studies, especially in northern Sweden, where he and a number of other artists made sketching tours throughout Dalarne and Lapland. Many canvases were the result of his trip, one being a landscape from the Qvickjock valley, purchased by King Oscar II. Having thus obtained recognition in Sweden, Grafström in 1886 went to the United States, locating in Portland, Ore. Here he soon made a success with his fine reproductions of the magnificent sceneries of the far Northwest, many being purchased at high prices for private collections or for public buildings and institutions. After three years in Portland he moved to Spokane in 1889, meeting with equally good fortune here. At an exhibition held at Spokane in 1890 and also at the annual exhibitions in Portland, Mr. Grafström showed some splendid pictures, chiefly landscapes.

One of these, with a motif from Lapland, won the large silver medal awarded at Portland. The press of the West Coast had only praise for Mr. Grafström's work.

Thus it will be seen that Prof. Grafström has accomplished not a little in the field of American art. But more is yet to be expected of this powerful wielder of the brush, and his past achievements warrant the belief that by his art he will contribute largely toward the art education of his nationality in this country.

Prof. Grafström was married June 15, 1904, to Miss Anna Nelson of Galesburg, herself a skillful painter.

OSCAR V. HOLMGRAIN

was born in Simtuna, Upland, Sweden, March 11, 1852 His



OSCAR V. HOLMGRAIN

father was C. A. Holmgren, musical director. The son studied at the Hudiksvall collegiate school and graduated in the spring of 1871. He went to Upsala in the fall of the same year, for the purpose of entering the university. Failing to secure the needed funds, in January, 1872, he entered as clerk several of the government departments at Stockholm, it being customary to register in two or more departments, thus getting an opportunity to make the best choice. The income being small, he decided to emigrate to America and arrived in New York in May, 1872, secured a position in a wholesale house in Philadelphia, and later in a jewelry store in Pittsburg, Pa. In the spring of 1879, he removed to Rock Island, and served as assistant teacher in Augustana College, while simultaneously studying theology in the Seminary. He was ordained a minister of the Lutheran Church in 1882 and has served the following churches: Beaver and Rankin, Ill., 1882–85; Worcester, Mass., 1885–87; Farmersville, Ford co., Ill., 1887–96; Chesterton, Ind., 1896–1900. Since April, 1900, he has been office editor of the Augustana Book Concern, at Rock Island. Rev. Holmgrain was county treasurer of Ford county, Ill. 1890–1894, secretary of the Illinois Conference 1889–91 and was treasurer of the same Conference 1896–1906.

June 24, 1882, Rev. Holmgrain was married to Jennie Christina Linderholm of Sterling, Ill., born April 25, 1860. Their two sons, Elmer Fredrick and Eric Oscar,

were born, respectively, 1888 and 1891.

C. EMANUEL HOFFSTEN,

former pastor of Grace English Lutheran Church of Rock Island,



CONRAD EMANUEL HOFFSTEN

was born March 26, 1876. When he was two years old, his parents removed to Philadelphia, where he obtained his public school and high school education, being graduated from the Central High School of Philadelphia in 1894 with the degree of A. B. In the fall of the same year he entered the Sophomore class of Augustana College, Rock Island, from which institution he was graduated in 1897, also with the degree af A. B. Mr. Hoffsten was valedictorian and was one of the highest honor men of his class. During the year 1897–8 he served as assistant to Dr. C. A. Evald, pastor of the Swedish Luth. Immanuel Church of Chicago. In the fall of 1898 he entered the Divinity Department of Augustana College and was graduated from that institution with the highest honors in 1901, receiving the degree of B. D. He was ordained by the Augustana Synod at Jamestown, N. Y., the same year. At once he assumed charge of Grace Lutheran Church of Rock Island, one of the few churches of the Augustana Synod in which the English language is exclusively used. He became known as an eloquent preacher and as an indefatigable and successful worker in the church. The heavy debt of the congregation was wiped out during his incumbency.

Since July, 1907, he has been pastor of the Harlem Swedish Lutheran Church of New York City.

The Rev. Mr. Hoffsten was united in marriage May 11, 1904, to Anna Fidelia Christina Evald, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Carl A. Evald of Chicago. They have a daughter, Beatrice Frances Elizabeth, born Feb. 25, 1905.

ELOF KARDELL JONSON,

pastor of the Zion Swedish Lutheran Church of Rock Island, was born on the farm of his father, Carl Jonson, at Kantebo, Tveta parish, Småland, Sweden, June 23, 1878. His early schooling was obtained in his native land up to 1891, when he, with his parents, brothers and sisters, came to the United States. The family located at Cedarville, Minn., as farmers. They are now

living in Portland, Ore., having removed to Rockford in 1898 and from Rockford in 1905. The son



ELOF KARDELL JONSON

Elof left the work on the farm in 1895 and entered Augustana, graduating with the college class of 1901, with the degree of A. B. The same year he took first prize in the annual oratorical contest at the institution.

During 1902–1904 Mr. Jonson did post-graduate work at the University of Chicago in the subjects of New Testament and Church History. Returning to Augustana, he completed the theological course in 1905, obtained his diploma as Bachelor of Divinity and was ordained minister by the Augustana Synod June 11 that summer. Thereupon he took pastoral charge of the Zion church whose pulpit he still supplies. Rev. Jonson preached his first sermon at the age of sixteen, began actual preparation for entering the ministry at twenty and served as pastor's assistant in the Immanuel Church of Chicago in 1901–1902, before taking up divinity studies.

May 21, 1907, Rev. Jonson was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Anderson of Rockford, Ill.

LINUS WARNER KLING,

professor of Latin at Augustana College, was born in Rockford, Ill., Sept. 14, 1872. His parents were Johan August Kling, a mechanic, who died in 1874, and his wife, Amalia Carolina Leijon. After graduating from the Rockford High School in 1888, he continued his studies at Augustana and graduated from that



LINUS WARNER KLING

institution with the class of '92.

During the school years 1893–96 Mr. Kling was instructor in Latin and English at Hope Academy, Moorhead, Minn., prior to which

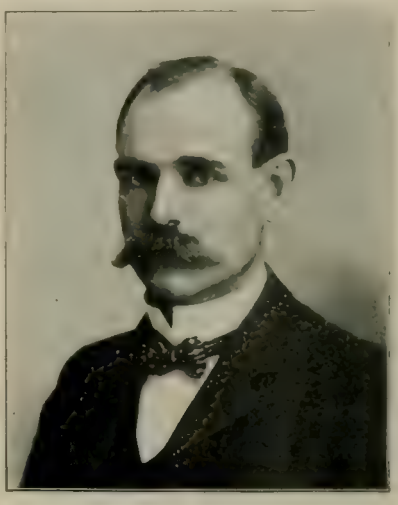
time he was for one year assistant principal of the high school at Stanton Iowa.

Leaving his position as teacher, Mr. Kling took up higher studies, first at the University of Nebraska, where he held a fellowship in 1898–99 and in the latter year took the degree of Master of Arts. Further studies were pursued in the Yale University Graduate School for two years, 1902–04, during the latter of which Mr. Kling held a scholarship.

After acting as assistant professor of Latin and Modern Languages at Augustana; from 1899 to 1902, Mr. Kling was called to the chair of Latin, which he now occupies. He is connected with the Zion Swedish Lutheran Church of Rock Island.

EMIL LARSON,

Director of the Augustana Conservatory of Music, was born at Åhus, Skåne, Sweden, Aug. 27, 1861. He was the youngest of seven sons of the local schoolmaster, John Larson, and his wife Gunilla. In 1863 the family emigrated, settling in Chicago, where Mr. Larson, Sr., was one of the first men engaged as teacher of the parish school of the Immanuel Church. Among the earliest investments of the family after reaching this country was the purchase of a melodeon, the precursor of the modern reed organ. With the aid of this instrument the children in turn endeavored to obtain a fundamental musical education. Oliver, one of the older brothers, became a singer and organist, and was



EMIL LARSON

in fact a pioneer in Swedish-American music, making a concert tour among the Swedish settlements in Illinois and Minnesota as far back as the '60s.

The son Emil acquired his musical education under difficulties. The family having lost everything in the great fire of 1871, he was obliged to begin work to help earn their living at an early age. The only time left him for study was after a ten hour working day in a book bindery. In the course of time he became a partner in the bindery business of Johnson and Larson.

In 1893 he sold his interest in the book bindery and thenceforth devoted himself entirely to the musical profession. Mr. Larson's studies were prosecuted

under the direction of the following teachers, J. F. Ring, Arthur J. Creswold, Gustavus Johnson



VENDELA E. B. LARSON

of Minneapolis, W. S. B. Mathews, Clarence Eddy and Wm. H. Sherwood. In 1888 Mr. Larson, after due examination by the American College of Musicians, was given the degree of A. A. C. M. (Associate American College of Musicians). In 1885 he had taken the position of organist of the Immanuel Church, which he retained until 1897 when he resigned to accept a similar position in the Union Park Congregational Church. In 1901 he was recalled to the Immanuel Church, where he continued as organist another three years. In 1899 he was called to instruct in piano at North Park College, Chicago, and taught there until January, 1905, when he accepted a call from the Augustana Conservatory of Music and removed to Rock Island. There he is teacher of Organ, Piano and Theory of Music, besides conducting the Wennerberg Male Chorus, the Handel Oratorio Society, and the Svea Male Chorus of Moline. Since September, 1906, Prof. Larson occupies the position of Director of the Conservatory. He has composed several works for piano, organ and mixed chorus, some of which have been published in Stockholm and Chicago. Among them are: Konsertfantasie öfver Svenska Folkvisor, Second Fantasia on Swedish Folksongs, and Variations on an Old Swedish Lullaby, all written for piano.

Mr. Larson was married Jan. 3, 1894, to Vendela E. B. Engberg, born March 22, 1870, in Chicago, a daughter of the late publisher Jonas Engberg and his wife, Elizabeth. Their children are, Harold Arthur, born Oct. 14, 1894; Edith Elizabeth, born Aug. 21, 1896; Gilbert Emil, born April 2, 1898, and Alice Vendela Barbara, born Aug. 16, 1904.

SIGFRID LAURIN,

pianist, teacher and composer, is one of the most eminent figures in Swedish-American musical life. The sketch of his life here given is supplementary to what has been said of his art in another part of this work.

Sigfrid Laurin was born April 18, 1867, at Höganäs, Skåne, Sweden, where his father, N. A. Laurin, was minister of the parish. His mother was Emilia Ahnfelt-Laurin, daughter of P. G.

Ahnfelt, a well-known writer, temperance speaker and divine, and a niece of Oscar Ahnfelt, the noted



SIGFRID LAURIN

singing evangelist of Sweden. Mrs. Ahnfelt-Laurin herself was a lady of culture and an authoress of some note. Her published works are, a collection of verse entitled "Klocktoner i hemmet;" "Sånger till kyrkoårets evangelier;" "Peter Fjellstedt, hans verksamhet i fosterlandet 1843–1881," also several translations, among which is "100 psalmer af N. F. S. Grundtvig," translated from the Danish. Rev. Laurin died in 1896 and his wife two years prior.

The son began his studies in Kristianstad and continued at Lund, where he graduated from the Carolinian Cathedral School in 1885. His early musical education was begun in the home, partly under the direction of his mother, herself a talented pianist. Later he studied music with Augusta Kiellander, a pupil of Edmund Neupert and Frans Neruda.

Having finished the course at the Cathedral school Laurin entered the Royal Conservatory at Stockholm the next fall. After three months he passed the organist examination at Christmas and the following spring he was graduated both as church cantor and music teacher.

Joining the piano class of the Conservatory at New Year's, 1886, Laurin studied with Hilda Thegerström, a pupil of Liszt, among others, till the close of the year 1890. In the meantime he took lessons in voice from Prof. Julius Günther and in counterpoint and composition from Josef Dente, and at his graduation Laurin won the medal of the Royal Conservatory, awarded for "remarkable advancement" in his studies.

During the season of 1893–4 Laurin studied with Richard Anderson, a piano teacher and head of a private music school in Stockholm. A call to become head professor of piano at Bethany Conservatory of Music at Lindsborg, Kans., brought Mr. Laurin to that institution in 1894. He went back to Sweden three years later, remaining for two years, but returned again in 1899 and held the same position at Bethany till the spring of 1903, when he revisited the fatherland. Coming again to this country in 1905, Prof. Laurin was placed in charge of the department of piano instruction at North Park College, Chicago. In Au-

gust, 1906, he was engaged as professor of piano at the Augustana Conservatory of Music at Rock Island, Ill., a position he still holds.

Prof. Laurin has been heard in a number of recitals and concerts in this country and in Sweden, his masterful execution on his chosen instrument earning him the admiration of his auditors and the unstinted praise of many able critics.

As a composer Prof. Laurin is known to the public only as far as he has rendered his own compositions, with a few exceptions only in manuscript. His works consist of songs, romances, and ballads for voice and several solos for the piano.

A great part of his time is given to the study of Chopin, whom Prof. Laurin considers his favorite composer.

Prof. Laurin's rearing in a Christian home, under the influence of a father who was a learned divine of the Lutheran faith and a mother of equally strong religious convictions, left a deep impression upon his character and personality. A deep religious strain is also predominant in his musical renditions as well as his writings.

CONRAD EMIL LINDBERG, D. D., R. N. O., was born in Jönköping, Sweden, June 9, 1852. He received his first college education in the college and gymnasium of his native city, and arrived in this country in 1871. He is a graduate of Augustana College and also of Augustana Theological Seminary. In harmony with the



CONRAD EMIL LINDBERG

wish of the Augustana Synod he also entered the Theological Seminary at Philadelphia in 187 and was graduated there three years later. He was ordained in 1874, but continued his studies in Philadelphia. In the year 187 he was tendered the pastorate of the Sw. Luth. Church of Minneapolis, but declined and accepted the call to Zion Church in Philadelphia. One of the reasons was the excellent opportunities for continued studies in Philadelphia. In 1879 he accepted the pastorate of Gustavus Adolphus Church in New York City, where he labored with great success. During his incumbency the congregation built a beautiful church which cost $67,000. The same year he was elected president of the New York Conference of the Augus

tana Synod and served in this capacity for ten years. When Dr. Lindberg arrived in the East there were few churches there. But by his efforts and travels in the mission field many congregations were organized. He was the recognized leader of the Swedish Lutheran Church in the East.

In 1890 he was unanimously elected professor in Augustana Theological Seminary at Rock Island. He has at different times been chairman and secretary of the Theological Faculty. In his instruction and lectures he uses both Swedish and English. His present subjects include Systematic Theology, Hermeneutics, Apologetics, Dogmatics, Ethics, Liturgics and Church Polity.

In 1893 the degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred upon him by Muhlenberg College, the leading Lutheran college in the East, and in the year 1901 the King of Sweden made him a Knight of the Royal Order of the North Star, the insignia of the order being conferred by the Right Rev. K. H. G. von Schéele, Bishop of Gotland. Dr. Lindberg was elected vice-president of the Augustana Synod at the synodical convention at St. Paul, in 1899, and was four times reelected. The Board of Directors of the Augustana College and Theological Seminary elected him vice-president of the institution in 1901. During the absence of Dr. Andreen in Sweden Dr. Lindberg was acting president of the institution.

Dr. Lindberg has contributed largely to church literature. Besides valuable articles in newspapers, magazines, theological reviews and journals he has written four books, his principal scientific work being a text book in dogmatics, which has won recognition among reviewers and leading educators both in this country and in Sweden. The other books are Betraktelser öfver Johannes Uppenbarelses tre första kapitel, Om dopet and Syllabus i konstruktiv luthersk kyrkorättslära.

Dr. Lindberg is a successful teacher, an interesting lecturer and a talented pulpit orator.

EDLA LUND,

née Ferngren, a singer of repute, has for many years taught in the



EDLA LUND

Augustana Conservatory of Music. From Stockholm, where she was born Aug. 8, 1867, she came to this country in 1887. Mrs. Lund

studied for more than two years at the Royal Academy of Music in Stockholm, taking vocal training with Prof. Günther, also studying piano and organ. She was for one year a pupil of Dina Edling, Prima Donna of the Royal Opera, and studied for two years under the direction of Mr. D. A. Duvivier of Chicago. She was married to Prof. Victor Lund of the Bethany Conservatory of Music at Lindsborg, Kans., in 1887. After the death of her husband in August, 1893, she was herself engaged as professor of vocal music in the same institution until 1894, when she went back to Sweden pursuing higher musical studies until the fall of 1895, when she accepted a position as teacher of voice at the Augustana Conservatory of Music. Mrs. Lund is endowed with a rich and fascinating soprano voice, which is often heard in concert in various parts of the United States. She is a proficient conductor, as shown in her direction of the Augustana Chapel Choir,the Choir of the First Congregational Church of Moline, and the Choral Union of Moline.

At the Kansas Musical Jubilee held in Hutchinson May 8–11, 1894, Mrs. Lund passed the competitive examination in organ and was awarded a prize certificate by Frederic Archer, musical director and adjudicator. She is a member of the Etude Club of Davenport and of the Woman's Club of Moline. Mrs. Lund has been soloist of the Congregational Church of Moline since 1902.

Mrs. Lund has participated in a number of concert tours in this country. In 1896 she toured the central West with the Apollo Club of Augustana College. In 1902 she, together with Prof. Franz Zedeler, gave a dozen concerts in Pennsylvania and New York, and in 1905 she toured the Pacific coast and was one of the soloists taking part in the celebration of Swedish Day at the Lewis and Clark Exposition at Portland. By the press everywhere she has been accorded fulsome praise for the charm and finish of her vocalism.

Mrs. Lund is the mother of two sons, Carl Edward and Sven Joseph, both of whom are now attaining to manhood. They have received part of their education in Sweden.

SVEN P. A. LINDAHL

was born Nov. 8, 1843, in Kristdala, Småland, Sweden. His parents, Olof Nilsson and Stina Ersson, passed their lives on a small farm in their native land. His father died in 1854, aged 52 years, and his mother passed away in 1878, at the age of 77 years. The son attended the common school in his native place, afterward studying for three years in the Ahlberg School. Determined to seek a career in America, he emigrated in 1865 and went direct to Paxton, Ill., where he entered Augustana College the same year.

In 1869 he was graduated and shortly afterwards was ordained to the ministry in the Swedish

Lutheran Church. His first pastorate was at Woodhull, where he remained a year. In 1870 and



SVEN PETER AUGUST LINDAHL

1871 he served as traveling missionary in the states of Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri and Dakota. He was, during 1872 and 1873, assistant pastor of the Immanuel Church in Chicago. From November, 1873, until 1885, he was pastor in charge of First Swedish Lutheran Church at Galesburg. From 1886 to 1890 he was stationed at Altona, Ill. He then accepted his present position as editor of *Augustana*, the organ of the Swedish Lutheran Church in America. In 1894 the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred upon him by the Augustana College and Theological Seminary.

On May 20, 1875, the Rev. Mr. Lindahl was married to Miss Clara Anderson of Galesburg, who died in 1877. He was remarried, July 1, 1885 to Miss Hannah Johnson of Galesburg. They have one daughter, Alberta Christina, born in 1887.

Since 1879 Dr. Lindahl has been a member of the Board of Directors of Augustana College and also served as chairman and director of the board. He organized and was for many years president of the Scandinavian Mutual Aid Association of Galesburg. Dr. Lindahl was president of the Augustana Synod 1887–1891 and secretary of the synod for seven years previously. With the Augustana Book Concern, the publishing house of the Augustana Synod, Dr. Lindahl has been prominently connected ever since its organization in 1884.

In his capacity as missionary and synodical president or representative as well as on his private account, Dr. Lindahl has traveled extensively in this country and in Europe. He visited Sweden and Norway in 1872; England, France, Denmark and Sweden in 1878, England, Holland, Belgium and the land of Luther in 1884; explored the mission field in the Southern states and started mission work in Texas in 1874, and in 1900, in behalf of Augustana Synod board, traveled through Alaska, also opening mission work there. Dr. Lindahl is one of the dominating figures in the Swedish Lutheran church in this country, and as editor of the official organ, wields a telling influence throughout the Augustana Synod

ANNA OLSSON

is a popular story writer, whose pen name, Aina, is familiar to



ANNA OLSSON

Swedish-American readers. She is the daughter of Dr. O. Olsson, former president of Augustana College, and his wife, Anna Lisa Jousson, both deceased, the mother having passed away in Rock Island March 18, 1887, and her father May 12, 1900.

Anna Olsson was born in the province of Vermland, Sweden, Aug. 19, 1866. The family emigrated in 1869 and lived in Lindsborg, Kans., until 1876, after which their home was in Rock Island. She studied at Augustana College from the fall of 1883 to the end of the school year in 1888, when she graduated with the degree of B. A.

From 1895 to 1900 Miss Olsson held the position of principal of the Ladies' Hall at Augustana College. About the end of that time she began to devote herself to authorship. In the fall of 1901 her first story was published without signature in the September number of *Ungdomsvännen*. Her sketches in Swedish-American dialect began to appear in the spring of 1903. In these sketches there is added to the droll humor of the dialect sparks of wit and the charm of clever story-telling, making them popular with almost any class of readers.

In 1903 a collection of sketches and stories by her were published in a book, under the common title, "Från Solsidan." Other products of her pen appeared in *Fosterlandet* and in the literary annuals, *Prärie-Blomman*, *Julrunan* and *Julgranen*. Miss Olsson also has essayed similar work in English, having a number of sketches in readiness for publication.

In 1889 the Olsson family went abroad and spent a year in Europe. During the six months spent in Germany, five in Zürich, Switzerland, and one in Rome and other parts of Italy, they accumulated a wealth of observation and knowledge of the Old World which on the part of Dr. Olsson was embodied in a volume entitled, "Till Rom och hem igen," while Miss Olsson has heretofore only sparingly turned her information to account in a literary way.

OLIVER P. OLSON,

who has been assistant postmaster of Rock Island since 1899, was born in Rinkaby, Skåne, Sweden, March 26, 1852. He came to

America at the early age of four, the family locating at Moline.

Having in turn been a resident



OLIVER P. OLSON

of Cordova for 6 years, Paxton for 14 years, Moline for 2 years, and Varna for 2 years, Mr. Olson in 1885 removed to Rock Island, where he was employed from 1889 to 1897 in the book store of the Augustana Book Concern as assistant manager. His education was obtained in the public schools and at Augustana College, where he studied in 1870 and 1871. Mr. Olson for a long term of years has been superintendent of various Sunday schools; member of different church councils; member of the board of directors of the Home Building and Loan Association of Rock Island; member of the board of directors of the Orphanage at Andover; treasurer of the Church Extension Society of the Augustana Synod; member of the executive committee of the Illinois Conference; member of the county board of supervisors; chairman of the local Civic Federation and chairman of the Republican club of his ward.

He belongs to the Zion Swedish Lutheran Church, and is active in politics and in the commercial advancement of Rock Island.

He was appointed assistant postmaster of the city of Rock Island Oct. 5, 1897, and reappointed in 1900 and 1901.

LOUIS OSTROM.

A. B., M. D., was born in Helsingland, Sweden, May 1, 1874, and came to America when six years old. His father is a pipe-organ



LOUIS OSTROM

builder, known among hundreds of churches all over the country. Young Ostrom attended public schools, and as soon as he was able to work, was at one time or another employed during vacations in nearly all the shops of Moline.

After becoming a student at Augustana College, he worked during the different vacations as section hand on the street car line, printer in a job office, and pressman to the Moline Daily *Dispatch*, etc. While a student, he also studied music under Dr. Gustav Stolpe; was director of the band, orchestra and mandolin clubs, cornetist, and later clarinetist with the 6th Regiment Band, I. N. G., of Moline, and Strasser's 2d Regiment Band of Davenport, Iowa. He also took active part in all college athletics, being a member of both base ball and foot ball teams. He graduated from Augustana College in 1895, in the English classical course receiving the degree of A. B. During the summer before graduation he was assistant organist to Dr. Stolpe in the Moline Lutheran Church, and after graduation was at Moore's Prairie, Minn., as organist and music teacher. While there he received a call from Augustana College to become professor of wind and stringed instruments in the Conservatory of Music, but declined because of intended medical study. He studied medicine at the State University of Iowa, at Iowa City, where he earned his way through by playing with orchestras and in churches, caring for a doctor's office for his room rent, and earning his board by serving as waiter at a restaurant until the end of his course. After leaving Iowa City, he was employed by the State Hospital at Independence, Iowa, but wishing to continue his medical studies, he resigned and went to St. Louis to the Missouri Medical College and Policlinic. During his medical studies he paid most particular attention to the eye and ear, but after his course at St. Louis, located in 1899 at Leonardville, Kans., and engaged in general practice. While there, he received a call from the Kansas Medical College at Topeka, Kans., to the Chair of Chemistry, and as director of the chemical laboratories, a position he held for one year, but as this interfered with private practice, he resigned and located in Rock Island, Ill., as a specialist, devoting all his professional attention to diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat. In the spring term of 1903, he was acting professor of Botany at Augustana College, during the absence of Prof. J. A. Udden, and later was professor in anatomy, physiology and histology in the premedical department. While doing post-graduate work at New York, he was professor of natural history at Upsala College, Kenilworth, N. J. Dr. Ostrom is adjunct to St. Anthony's Hospital and examiner for more than a dozen insurance companies. Since his graduation in medicine, he has taken post graduate courses with some of the most noted specialists in America.

In the spring of 1907, Dr. Ostrom was elected alderman of the 7th ward.

In 1899 Dr. Ostrom was married to Miss Sophia Hult, formerly

secretary to the business manager of Augustana College. They have one child, Meredith.

ANDREW PETERSON,

building contractor, was born in Gesäter parish, Dalsland, Sweden,



ANDREW PETERSON

Dec. 31, 1839, and emigrated at the age of thirty. He arrived in Chicago in 1870 and joined the Immanuel Swedish Luth. Church. After the great fire he, together with Peter Colseth, took active part in the rebuilding of the church edifice destroyed in the fire. Mr. Peterson removed to Rock Island in 1875, and helped to put up the first main building of Augustana College at Rock Island in that year; he also contracted for part of the woodwork in the new building erected in 1884. He was one of the contractors for the Swedish Lutheran church in Moline, Peter Colseth and J. A. P. Berg being the other two, and built the steeple of that edifice in 1881. He erected the Zion Swedish Lutheran church in 1891, the gymnasium at Augustana College in 1894, and has built some sixty private dwelling houses in East Rock Island and West Moline. He has lived for over a score of years at 4425 Sixth ave., and is still engaged in building and contracting. He is a member of the Swedish Lutheran Church of Moline and has served as a deacon for more than a dozen years. Since 1904 he has served as a trustee. Mr. Peterson has been teaching in Sunday schools continually since his arrival in America.

Aug. 10, 1872, at Chicago, he was married to Elsa Christina Peterson, and their children are: Anna C., died in 1895; Mathilda, died in 1884; Fred B., married to Theresa Matson and now living at Oakland, Cal., John P., Amalia C., and Carl E. Mr. Peterson has been a stanch Republican ever since he was naturalized as a citizen.

In 1894 Mr. Peterson was elected trustee of the Civic Federation in Rock Island, and in 1905 a director of Augustana College.

VICTOR OLOF PETERSON,

who for fifteen years occupied the chair of Physics and Chemistry at Augustana College, was born in Solberga, Skede parish, Sweden, Sept. 24, 1864. At the age of three he came with his parents to America. The family settled on a farm near Stanton, Ia., where he was reared. In 1881 both parents

died, and after working as a farm hand in 1882, the son began his studies at Augustana College in



VICTOR OLOF PETERSON

January, 1883, completing his college course in 1889. In 1890 he took a special course in chemistry at Harvard University and was called to the chair of Physics and Chemistry at his Alma Mater in the following year, a position which he held until 1905, when he resigned his chair to engage in a commercial enterprise, known as the Rock Island Tropical Plantation Company, and is at present secretary of that corporation.

He was married in 1891 to Miss Jenny A. Lindeborg of Chicago. They have five children: Edith Alida Victoria, Harald Victor, Olof Reuben, Oliver Herbert and Rolf Leonard.

Mr. Peterson is a member of the Grace English Luth. Church of Rock Island, in which he has served as a deacon for years. He is chairman of the board of directors of the North Star Benefit Association and takes active interest in politics, having often served as a judge of election and sat in Republican conventions.

FRANK EDWARD PETERSON

was born at Andover, Ill., Jan. 31, 1865. In early boyhood he manifested a love of music and picked his way through a number of melodies unaided. When he had invented a holder for his mouth organ so that he was able to play that juvenile instrument and accompany himself on the family cabinet organ his parents finally permitted him



FRANK EDWARD PETERSON

to take lessons in music. In 1885 he left high school and was enrolled in the academic department at Augustana College. Having finished the Freshman year, he entered the conservatory department under Dr. Gustav Stolpe

and was graduated in 1891 with the degree of Bachelor of Music. The next year he accepted a position as organist of the Swedish Lutheran Church in Boston, and took up studies at the New England Conservatory. In the fall of 1893 he resigned his position and in November entered the Royal Conservatory at Leipsic and studied piano under Profs. Krause and Zwintscher and theory under Prof. Gustave Schreck, cantor of the Thomas school. Returning home in 1897 he accepted the proffered position of instructor of the department of piano in the Augustana Conservatory. Prof. Peterson thoroughly studied the Virgil clavier system and applied that silent practice method in his department. He was for a time conductor of the Augustana Silver Cornet Band and was chosen director of the Handel Oratorio Society in 1900.

July 6, 1898, he was married to Miss Amanda C. Hult of Moline, born July 19, 1872, a musician and singer, with a high soprano voice of good quality. She has been director of the Swedish Lutheran church choir of Moline and is a capable vocal teacher.

In the spring of 1906, Prof. Peterson's connections with the Augustana Conservatory were severed and the following fall he took charge as director of the department of music at Minnesota College, at Minneapolis.

JOHAN AUGUST UDDEN, Ph. D., who became professor of Geology and Natural History at



JOHAN AUGUST UDDEN

Augustana College in 1888, was born in Uddabo, Lekåsa parish, Vestergötland, Sweden, March 19, 1859. His parents were Andreas Larson, whose ancestors had for several generations lived in Qvistagården in the same parish, and Inga Lena, born Anderson, from Häradsberget. They emigrated to America in 1861 and settled near Carver in Carver county, Minn. His education was begun in the parochial and in the public schools of the new settlement. At the age of fourteen he entered St. Ansgar's Academy at East Union, and in 1876 he was enrolled as a member of the third class in the academic department of Augustana College. He graduated from the college department in 1881, and after attending the Teachers' Summer Normal in McPherson,

Kans., he was the same year engaged as teacher for a new private school, Bethany Academy, after-



JOHANNA KRISTINA UDDEN

ward Bethany College, at Lindsborg, Kans. He continued teaching in this institution for seven years, pursuing natural history studies during vacations, and being away on a leave of absence at the University of Minnesota in the winter of 1886. In 1888 he was called to his present position. During the summer of 1892 he served as assistant to the state geologist of Illinois, preparing a collection for the state exhibit at the World's Fair in Chicago. The following year, during a leave of absence, he spent some months in Baltimore, Md., analyzing soils, and the following summer he was engaged as special field assistant on the United States geological survey, to examine the drift in the Green River basin in Illinois. From 1898 to 1902 he was employed during the summers as special assistant on the Iowa geological survey, and he has mapped and reported on six counties in that state. In 1903 he was engaged by the Texas Mineral Survey to examine the Shafter area in Presidio county, and in 1904 he was in charge of a party of the the same organization making a survey of the geology of the Chisos country in Brewster county. In the summer and fall of 1905 the New York and Texas Land Co., Ltd., engaged his services for making an examination of the mineral resources of their lands in the Upper embayment of the Rio Grande, and a report on the geology of this region has recently been published in number 6 of the Augustana Library Publications. In 1906 he was engaged as geologist on the Illinois Geographical Survey. During the last two summers he has been engaged in work on the Peoria and the Belleville coal districts in this state.

His most important scientific work has been some investigations bearing on the wind as a geological agent. On this subject he has published, "Erosion, Transportation and Sedimentation performed by the Atmosphere," "Dust and Sandstorms in the West," "Loess as a Land Deposit," and "The Mechanical Composition of Wind Deposits." A number of other papers from his pen have appeared in various scientific journals, in the proceedings of scientific societies, and in the reports of the official surveys with which

he has been connected. In "An Old Indian Village" he has described some prehistoric remains in Kansas. While in Kansas he served as editorial writer on *Kansas-Posten*, a Swedish weekly, in 1888, and edited the Lindsborg *News* in 1888. He has been elected to membership in the Davenport Academy of Science, in the Iowa Academy of Science, in the National Geographic Society, and he is a Fellow of the Geological Society of America and of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Aug. 27, 1882, Prof. Udden was married to Johanna Kristina Davis of Carver county, Minn., whose parents came from Ljunga, Kronobergs län, and settled near Carver in 1856. Mrs. Udden was born there Sept. 13, 1858. She attended the public schools and later studied at St. Ansgar's Academy and in Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minn. Their marriage has been blessed with four children, three of whom are living: Jon Andreas, born in Lindsborg, Kan., May 19, 1885; Anton David, born in Lindsborg, Kan., Dec. 28, 1886, and Svante Mauritz, born in Rock Island, Ill., June 16, 1892.

SVEN G. YOUNGERT

was born April 27, 1861, at Ljunget, Algutsrum, on the Island of Öland, Sweden. The youth studied at Mannhem's private school in Vestergötland and then attended the Fjellstedt School in Upsala for two years and continued in that city studying privately for two years more. He came to this country in 1886 and entered Augustana College, gradu-



SVEN GUSTAF YOUNGERT

ating after two years. Entering Augustana Theological Seminary in 1890 he completed the course and was ordained to the holy ministry in 1892 at Lindsborg, Kan. He pursued a course in philosophy and psychology at the University of Iowa 1903–07.

Rev. Youngert had charge of the Swedish Lutheran congregation at Kewanee, Ill., 1892–96, the greater part of the time serving as secretary of the Illinois Conference. In 1897 he removed to Ottumwa, Ia., and was pastor of the Swedish Lutheran church there until 1900, when he accepted a call to a professorship in theology at Augustana Theological Seminary. The next year he was elected secretary of the theological faculty and has since retained this office. He now gives instruction

n philosophy, Greek New Testament exegesis, New Testament introduction and catechetics.

For several years Prof. Youngert has been an associate editor of *Tidskrift för Kyrkliga frågor*. He is editor of *Ungdomsvännen* and has contributed quite freely to other magazines and newspapers.

In 1897 Rev. Youngert obtained the degree of Bachelor of Divinity for post graduate studies. In 1900 he received the degree of Master of Arts and in the spring of 1902 he offered final examinations for the degree of Candidate of Sacred Theology and was accordingly promoted by Augustana College and Theological Seminary, receiving the degree of Doctor of Sacred Theology in 1905. The degree of Doctor of Philosophy was conferred upon him by Bethany College.

Dr. Youngert is a member of the following learned bodies: the American Geographical Association, the American Forestry Association, the Religious Education Association, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Dr. Youngert visited Sweden in 1907 as the representative of Augustana College at the celebration held at Upsala University and at the Royal Academy of Sciences at Stockholm, of the two hundredth anniversary of the birth of Carl von Linné, receiving the Linnean medal from the Royal Academy of Sciences.

The marriage of Dr. Youngert with Hannah Alfrida Shoberg, daughter of A. P. Shoberg of Chicago, took place April 27, 1894. Their children are: Eugene Fernando, Elvira Olive, Oliver Gustavus Ludvig, Eunice Antonia, Ilian Beatrice Caroline and Arnold Edward.

Dr. Youngert is a man of scholarly attainments, deeply devoted to education and to the Church.

GUSTAV ALBERT ANDREEN, president of Augustana College and Theological Seminary, was born at Porter, Ind., March 13, 1864. His parents were Rev. A. Andreen who died in Rock Island, Feb. 10, 1880, and his wife Hilda Esping, who passed away in August, 1878. From Porter Rev. Andreen removed to Swedona, and here the son attended the public and parochial schools. Aged eleven years, he entered Augustana College at Rock Island, and was graduated at the head of the college class of 1881.

Having taught at Augustana in 1882–04, studying law in the meantime, and at Bethany College, at Lindsborg, Kansas, from 1886 to 1893, he entered Yale University, doing post graduate work, which led to the degree of Ph. D. in 1898. From 1894 to 1901 he was instructor at the university. After his appointment to the chair of Scandinavian languages, he went to Europe for more thorough study of the old Norse and Scandinavian languages and spent two years at Upsala University and the University of Christania for that

purpose. He returned in the fall of 1900 and assumed his new duties at Yale. When, upon the death of Dr. O. Olsson in 1900, a new president of Augustana College and Theological Seminary was to be chosen, the Augustana Synod first turned to that eminent educator, Dr. Carl Swensson of Bethany College, with a request that he fill the vacant presidential chair. Being too closely attached to that institution of his own making,he declined the call,and Dr. C. W. Foss continued as acting president until the close of the following school year. At the annual meeting of the Augustana Synod at Jamestown, N. Y., in June, 1901, after a year's casting about for a man for the place, Dr. Gustav Andreen was elected to the presidency, the choice being influenced to a marked degree by Dr. Andreen's efforts to enlist the interest of prominent men of Sweden in behalf of the Swedish-American institution of learning. These efforts later bore fruit in a contribution of 100,000 crowns from the old country toward an endowment fund for Augustana. As the head of this institution Dr. Andreen has continued his efforts to put it on a firmer financial basis, a task still far from completed.

Dr. Andreen recently completed a course in theology begun while a teacher at Augustana in the '80s and was ordained to the ministry in 1905.

Dr. Andreen has done much public speaking, principally in behalf of the institution he represents. He addressed the Chautauqua Assembly on Swedish Day in 1905 and has appeared as speaker on other occasions of moment. On the platform he handles the two mother tongues of the Swedish-Americans with like fluency. His published writings heretofore are confined to his doctoral thesis entitled "Studies in the German Idyl" (Rock Island, 1902) and a treatise on "Svenska Språket i Amerika" (Upsala, 1900).

On Aug. 7, 1890, Dr. Andreen was joined in wedlock to Miss Maria Augusta Strand of Junction City, Kans., a lady of Norwegian descent. The following children have been born to them: Paul Harold, 1891, Marion Albert, 1894, Esther Miriam, 1896, Gustav Strand, 1901, Margaret Dorothy, 1903, Signe Marie, 1904, and Carl Oscar, 1906. Signe died Jan. 2, 1906, and Dorothy Sept. 22, 1906. Mrs. Andreen was born Aug. 17, 1870.

BUREAU COUNTY

PRINCETON

JOHN A. BERG,

minister of the Swedish Lutheran Church, was born in Sjösås parish,



JOHN AUGUST BERG

Småland, Sweden, Aug. 16, 1863. His father was a mason and the son learned the same trade. Later he studied at a private Bible school in Nye, Småland, where he commenced to preach in 1885. Two years later Mr. Berg came to America and was matriculated at Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, Minn., where he studied a short time. Thereafter he went to the Chicago Theological Seminary, graduating in 1892. He has since been pastor of the Swedish Evangelical Mission Churches of Mankato, Minn., Iron Mountain, Mich., Kewanee, Ill., and of the Swedish Mission Church of Humboldt Park, Chicago, having served there from 1899 to 1905, when he left the Mission Church for the Augustana Synod. He then accepted charges at Hobart and Miller, Ind., and from November, 1906, is pastor of the Swedish Lutheran Church in Princeton, Ill.

Rev. Berg has been a member of the board of directors of the Swedish Home of Mercy in Chicago.

He is married since May 23, 1900, his wife's maiden name being Hanna Swan. She is a native of Ramqvilla, Sweden. They have two children, Margaret Amalia, born Dec. 9, 1901, and Carl Johan Sigfrid, born July 18, 1905.

CHARLES T. DAHLGREN

was born in Locknevi parish, Småland, Sweden, Dec. 5, 1858. His early education was obtained in the public schools of Sweden. He emigrated to this country in June, 1880, both parents having died a number of years before. Princeton has been his residence since that time. The trade of a harness-maker was learned by him in the old country, and in 1882 he embarked in that line of business, in which he has been uniformly successful.

Mr. Dahlgren is a member of the Swedish Lutheran Church in Princeton, which he has served as trustee, secretary and treasurer for various periods. He was city treasurer for four years in the '90s

and has been president of the Swedish-American Republican Club of Bureau county. He has also held office in a number of other organizations, to which he belongs.



CHARLES THEODOR DAHLGREN

Mr. Dahlgren is the vice-president of the First State Bank of Princeton.

FRANK L. ECKDAHL

is a native of Princeton, having been born there March 18, 1874. Having taken a course in Princeton Business College, he entered on his business career as a clothing merchant in the fall of 1897, in partnership with F. E. Peterson, under the firm name of Eckdahl & Peterson. Three years later he opened a second clothing store, with A. C. Carlson as special partner. March 1, 1903, the copartnership of Eckdahl, Peterson & Co. was dissolved, Mr. Eckdahl succeeding the firm.

He has served for some years as a deacon in the English Lutheran Church, of which he is a member.

Mr. Eckdahl is married and there are two children in the family.



FRANK L. ECKDAHL

C. A. HELLERSTEDT,

wagon and carriage manufacturer, was born in Källstad, Östergötland, Sweden, Sept. 18, 1848. In May, 1868, he emigrated to Chicago. He graduated from the Bryant and Stratton Business College of Davenport, Iowa, in 1875, then went to California, where he worked in San Francisco, in the Guadaloupe quicksilver mine and in Stockton for two years. In 1877 and 1878 he attended the University of the Pacific in Santa Clara. Returning to Illinois in 1879 he joined his brother Peter F. Hellerstedt in business in Morrison, where they had a wagon shop. A year later they branched out and C. A.

Hellerstedt ran another shop in Sterling in 1883, when the site was sold to a railway company



C. A. HELLERSTEDT

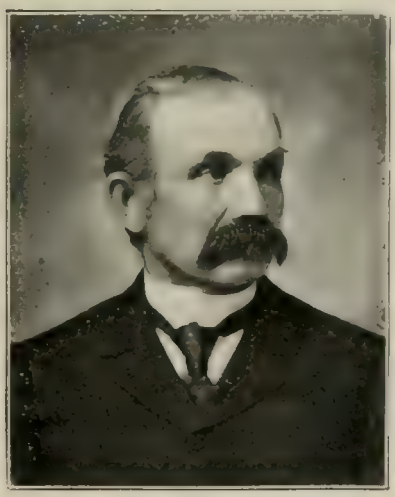
company for depot purposes. Then he moved back to Morrison and three years later sold his interest to his brother to engage in the same line of business for himself in Vinton, Ia. After a year's time this venture was given up and Mr. Hellerstedt removed to Princeton, where he was engaged in the manufacture of vehicles of various types until his death in February, 1907.

In 1888 Mr. Hellerstedt was married to Hattie Teller Barnum, of Union Grove, Ill., who on her father's side is related to P. T. Barnum, the great circus man, and on her mother's side is a niece of ex-senator Teller of Colorado.

Mr. Hellerstedt was of the Methodist Episcopal faith and served his church as trustee, Sunday school teacher and choirmaster.

JOHN HED

was born in Käfsjö parish, Småland, Sweden, Dec. 22, 1844. He came to America in 1865. His wife, Eva Christina, was born Sept. 14, 1847, in the same parish. Mr. Hed is a contractor and builder by vocation. He has six sons, Carl Oscar, married to Emma Maria, Emil Godtherr, John Clarence, married to Ida, Arthur Wilbur, Lawrence Robert, Reuben David, and two daughters, Hilda Elizabeth, now Mrs. John Skorberg of Rockford, and Alma Josephine, now Mrs. Marcus Kissick.



JOHN HED

The family are members of the Swedish Free Mission Church.

JOHN ALBERT HINQUIST

was born in Mossebo parish, Elfsborgs län, Sweden, June 12, 1864. He has been living

in Princeton since March, 1884, when he came to the United States. After obtaining a com-



JOHN ALBERT HINQUIST

mon school education he began working and is now foreman of a lumber yard. He is a member of the Swedish Lutheran Church which he has served in the office of trustee for a number of years. He belongs to the Swedish Sick Benefit Society, the Modern Woodmen, and the Mystic Workers of the World and has occupied the highest offices in the three organizations. For several years Mr. Hinquist has been president of the Bureau County Republican Club and vice-president and member of the executive committee for the county in the Swedish-American Republican League of Illinois. He has been repeatedly elected commissioner of highways in Princeton township. In 1890–91 he spent nearly a year on a visit to his old home in Sweden and Dec. 6, 1893 he wedded Miss Jennie Colberg of Princeton.

PETER JOHNSON

was born in Venestad, Skåne, Sweden, April 11, 1826. He was in the van of Swedish emigration to this country coming here in 1856. He located at once in Princeton. When Abraham Lincoln called for volunteers in April, 1861, Peter Johnson, who had been quickly Americanized, at once responded. He enlisted in Co. I., 12th Illinois Regiment and fought through the war. Returning to the peaceful occupations of life, he resumed his old trade of carpentry at which he has acquired



PETER JOHNSON

a fair competence. He has remained unmarried.

Mr. Johnson is a member of the Swedish Lutheran Church in Princeton and was for fifteen years one of its trustees. He is a member of the Swedish-Ameri-

can Republican Club and of the Grand Army of the Republic.

CARL JACOB LEDIN,

minister of the Mission Covenant of America, and now in charge



CARL JACOB LEDIN

of its church in Princeton, was born in Eskelhem parish, on the island of Gotland, Dec. 13, 1864. His parents were Thomas Christian Ledin, a farmer, and his wife, Charlotta Liffdell, who died in 1903 at New Haven, Ct. He finished the common school before the family emigrated in 1883. Coming to this country they lived in Greenwich and Newington before settling in New Haven, Ct., in 1886. After attending public school young Ledin in 1888 entered the Swedish department of the Chicago Theological Seminary. After graduation in 1891 he returned to Sweden where he was traveling missionary for one year and had charge of the Mission church in Nässjö for two and one-half years. Coming back to the United States in 1894, he assumed charge of the Swedish Congregational Church at New Haven, remaining until 1898. His subsequent fields of labor have been: Ishpeming, Mich., 1898–1900; Tabernacle Church in Chicago, 1900–1904; Princeton, 1905 to the present time.

Rev. Ledin in 1903 was sent to Sweden to distribute the funds raised by the Mission Friends in America for the famine sufferers in Northern Sweden, and also to study conditions in the famine stricken districts. On this tour he went as far north as Jukkosjärvi, situated 120 miles beyond the arctic circle. Besides traveling extensively in Norrbotten and Vesterbotten, he visited Dalarne, Vermland, Småland, and Gotland, returning in September of the same year. Rev. Ledin is the author of a catechism for Bible schools.

Sept. 10, 1896, Rev. Ledin was married to Miss Sara Charlotta Olson, born in Daretorp, Sweden, Oct. 8, 1870. Of five children born to them only two survive, namely Sara Lydia Theodora, born 1904, and Aina Carola Elisabeth, 1906.

ANDREW E. NELSON

was born on a farm at Stenstorp, Skaraborgs län, Sweden, March 3, 1864. His parents were Nels J. and Sara Anderson. In 1886 he emigrated to America and went to Lincoln, Nebr. After

learning the building trade, he erected by contract a number of houses in that city. A few years later Mr. Nelson removed to Princeton, Ill., where he continued in the same business. Among the many buildings erected by him may be mentioned the elegant residence of Col. Paddock.



ANDREW E. NELSON

Mr. Nelson was a trustee of the Swedish Lutheran Church in Princeton for several years. He is a member of the order of Modern Woodmen and was chairman of the Swedish Sick-Benefit Association of Princeton for several terms.

In 1891 Mr. Nelson was married to Ellen C., a daughter of Andrew and Bengta Thulen of Princeton, born Nov. 30, 1869. Their eldest children are Mildred Eveline, Walter V., Ellen May and Florence Margaret.

In the spring of 1904 Mr. Nelson moved on a farm in New Boston, Mo., where he still lives.

CLAUS J. OBERG

was born in Sweden Jan. 23, 1849. After having had a common school education in Sweden, he emigrated to the United States in 1867, landing at Castle Garden June 3. At once he went to Princeton and worked on Eaton's farm until 1870. On Feb. 26 of that year he married Jennie Fogelberg. He rented a farm for two years, after which he bought one. He tilled the soil for twelve years, and then sold his latest acquired farm and went into the grocery business with Andrew Johnson. This enterprise was sold three years later.



CLAUS J. OBERG

Mr. Oberg thereupon rented a 240 acre farm for several years, and subsequently bought a farm near Princeton, which he cultivated for five years. In 1898 he bought a meat market in Princeton, which,

with the aid of his son, C. E. Oberg, has been conducted with marked success.

Mr. and Mrs. Oberg belong to the Swedish Lutheran Church. They have two daughters and one son.

Mr. Oberg belongs to the Swedish Republican Club of Bureau county.

C. ENOCH OBERG

was born in Princeton, Ill., July 15, 1877. His parents are Mr.



C. ENOCH OBERG

and Mrs. Claus J. Oberg of that city. He attended school until fifteen, after that he assisted on the farm. During the winter months he attended the Princeton Business College. When in the spring of 1898 his father bought a meat market, the son learned the trade of meat cutting and has now been admitted to a partnership, the name of the firm being Oberg & Son.

C. Enoch Oberg was united in marriage to Edith Wright on Jan. 1, 1900. A daughter was born to them on May 17, 1902.

Mr. Oberg belongs to the Swedish Republican Club of Princeton.

GUSTAF PETERSON

was born Dec. 9, 1844, in Käfsjö, Småland, Sweden. His father,



GUSTAF PETERSON

Peter Magnus Peterson, was born in 1805 and died in 1852. His mother, Stina Bengtson, was born in 1804 and died in 1854. Gustaf's early education was obtained in the Swedish public schools. He emigrated to America in 1869, landing on June 2. For a time he lived in Chicago, but moved in 1876 to Princeton, where he has been successful as a carpenter contractor and builder.

Mr. Peterson was united in marriage with Alma Larson on Dec. 26, 1884. She was born in Borgstina parish, Vestergötland, Aug.

31, 1857. A daughter, Hulda Christina, was born to them March 18, 1886, and died Aug. 15, 1906. The mother died Sept. 29, 1887.

On Aug. 28, 1895, Mr. Peterson was married to Maria Carolina Erickson, born in Hädinge, Käfsjö parish, Småland. Three children resulted from this union, Ernest Caleb Adolphus, born May 5, 1896, Alice Elizabeth, Oct. 22, 1897, and Maria Carolina Ruth, July 14, 1900. Their mother died Nov. 4, 1900.

Mr. Peterson belongs to the Swedish Congregational Church, in which he has held several offices of trust. He has been a citizen since 1876 and is a Republican.

CHARLES G. SWANSON,

born in Vestergötland, Sweden, Sept. 24, 1832, emigrated to the United States in the spring of 1864 and settled in Princeton, where, after having been in business as a boot and shoe dealer, he later engaged in fruit raising. He is a member of the Mission Church, in which he has served successively as president, treasurer, trustee, and deacon.

He has always been a straight Republican in politics and is proud of the fact. He has been assistant supervisor of Princeton township for more than fourteen years.



CHARLES G. SWANSON

Mr. Swanson was married Dec. 23, 1855, to Miss Mary Johnson, the union having been blessed with five children, all living. The three sons are now living in Aurora, Hamilton co., Neb., one daughter is married and lives on a farm near Princeton, while the other daughter lives at home with the parents.

Winnebago County

ANDREW J. ANDERSON

was born in the city of Rockford June 7, 1862, and has made this



ANDREW J. ANDERSON

city his home, with the exception of one year, spent in Texas. He is of Swedish descent, his father, Jonas P. Anderson, being a native of Rydaholm, Sweden.

Mr. Anderson was educated in the city schools and took a course in the Rockford Business College. He was first employed in the mechanical department of the Rockford Watch factory, where he remained several years.

In 1881 the Excelsior Furniture Co. was organized with a capital of $50,000, and Mr. Anderson was made its secretary and treasurer, which position he held for eight years.

In 1890 he opened an office at 421 E. State st., where he conducted a real estate, loan and insurance business.

In January, 1898, he was made secretary and treasurer of the Union Overalls Co., which position he has filled with marked success and still holds. He had charge of a large manufacturing plant in Texas during the year 1896, after which he returned to Rockford.

He served in the city council as alderman of the 2d ward during the years 1890–1895, and was reelected again in 1903.

Mr. Anderson was a member of the Republican State Central Committee of Illinois 1903–1904.

In 1904 he was elected to the state senate.

He is a Knight of Pythias.

Mr. Anderson was married to Miss Hilma Johnson Dec. 30, 1896, and has one child, a son, Howard Edmund. The family resides at 942 Kishwaukee st.

OSCAR B. ANDERSON

hails from Kinna, Vestergötland, Sweden, where he was born Sept. 6, 1862. He emigrated from Sweden in 1888 and came to Chicago, obtaining employment as a carpenter in the Deering Harvester Works. In 1889 he went to work as a stone-cutter, a trade more to his liking. In the fall of 1892 he visited his old home in Sweden, where his mother and brother were still living. Returning to Chicago the following year

he conducted a grocery for seven months, but a preference for his old business reasserted itself. In



OSCAR B. ANDERSON

1895 he established himself at 5834 May st. as a cut-stone contractor, removing in 1901 to 5830–34 Centre ave. In 1904 he removed to Rockford, where he is continuing in the same line of business.

Mr. Anderson was married Jan. 12, 1895, to Anna Ottilia Segerhammar, born Nov. 28, 1870, in Vassemåla, Vimmerby, Småland, her father being John I. Segerhammar. They have two sons and three daughters, born as follows: Carl Reinhold, Oct. 22, 1896; Oscar Wilhelm, May 8, 1898; Edith Sophia, July 22, 1900; Violet Ottilia, Nov. 22, 1903, and Alice Emelia Josephina, April 26, 1907.

Mr. and Mrs. Anderson are active workers in the Zion Swedish Lutheran Church.

ALFRED APPELL

was born in Lynn township, Knox county, Ill., Jan. 12, 1868. He was reared on the farm and attended public and parochial school, when farm work permitted. After his confirmation in 1883 he was sent to Augustana College, where he matriculated in the academic department. Continuing his studies for seven years, he graduated with the college class of 1890. He then went to Yale, where he took up the study of political economy and sociology under the direction of Professors William G. Sumner and Arthur T. Hadley and philosophy and pedagogy under Prof. George T. Ladd. In ad-



ALFRED APPELL

dition, he attended the instruction in biblical exegesis by Dr. W. R. Harper and the John Hall lectures at the Yale Divinity School.

Returning to Augustana College in 1891 he pursued theological studies, also taking a post-graduate

course in economics, United States History and German. In 1892 he presented his thesis, on "The Theory of Value," and was awarded the master's degree. His theological studies completed the following year, he was ordained to the ministry on a call from the Salem Swedish Lutheran Church of Peoria.

While a student, he preached and taught Swedish parochial school in various localities and at college was frequently called upon to assist in teaching Prof. Williamson's classes in mathematics.

At Peoria Rev. Appell took charge of a church of 75 members, which has since grown to about 315 communicants and 530 members all told. During his tenure an attractive church edifice was erected at a net cost of $15,000.

In 1906 Rev. Appell accepted a call from the Illinois Conference Board to take up missionary work at South Park, Rockford. He organized the Salem Swedish Lutheran Church, which now numbers over 200 communicants.

In 1895 Rev. Appell was offered the chief editorship of *Hemlandet*, which he declined, not desiring to change his calling. He, however, about the same time became financial editor of *Nya Pressen*, published in Moline for the campaign of 1895–96, a work that did not interfere with his pastoral duties. In the spring of 1896 he published a 64-page booklet on "The Money Question," which was put out in both a Swedish and an English edition.

In local politics Rev. Appell takes an active part and has frequently served as a delegate to city and county conventions. He aided in the organization of the Swedish - American Republican League of Illinois, has been chosen one of its vice-presidents, and was a member for years of the Kickapoo Club, a Republican organization in Peoria.

As a churchman his activity has brought him forward at various points. He has served as chairman of the Peoria Ministerial Association, embracing all Protestant clergymen in the city; in 1902 he was elected secretary of the Illinois Conference, twice reelected and subsequently made vice-president of the Conference in 1905, being reelected in 1906. He is one of the editors of the *Lutheran Lesson Quarterly*, issued by the General Council, which in 1905 elected him its Swedish corresponding secretary and reelected him in 1907. He was also chosen a member of its board of "Sunday school work." He has made numerous contributions to the churchly as well as the secular press. In 1892 he was chosen councilor of the American Institute of Civics.

June 6, 1906, Rev. Appell was united in marriage with Miss Alice Rohlen of Rockford, who is a graduate of the high school of Rockford and the normal department of Augustana College and who taught for three years in the Brown public school in Rockford.

AUGUST E. BARGREN,

Chief of Police of the city of Rockford, came to that city in



AUGUST E. BARGREN

1868, when five years of age, and has resided there ever since. He was born March 1, 1863. His father, John Peter Bargren, died in Rockford in 1894. After attending the graded schools until twelve years old, young Bargren worked in a candy factory until the age of twenty, then opened a confectionery store of his own and conducted the business for two years. He next entered the employ of the United States Express Co., remaining for three years, and was then with the Adams Express Co. for two years. When he quit their service as messenger he joined the police department as a patrolman. In 1894, after four years of service on the force, he was appointed Chief of Police, a position he still retains, having been reappointed by every succeeding administration.

Mr. Bargren is a member of the First Swedish Lutheran Church of Rockford and of a number of fraternal orders, including B. P. O. Elks, the Modern Woodmen, Royal Arcanum, Archæan Union No. 1, Rockford Germania Turn-Verein Club, the Red Men and the Svea Söner Singing Society.

May 28, 1883, he was married to Miss Josephine Spencer, daughter of Alexander and Mary Williams Spencer of Beloit, Wis. Their children are Howard Spencer, born 1886, and Lucile Isabelle, born 1895.

FREDERICK BENGTSON,

dealer in men's furnishing goods, was born near Göteborg, Sweden,



FREDERICK BENGTSON

April 2, 1866. When he was one year old his parents, Andrew A. Bengtson, deceased March 1, 1887, and Lottie I., emigrated to America settling in Rockford. After attending public school Mr. Bengtson for his business training took a course in a commercial college, before engaging in actual business. His fraternal affiliations are with the Knights of Pythias.

In the late nineties he was married to Miss Hattie L. Huldt, who was born in Rockford, Nov. 23, 1872. They have two children.

NELS J. BILLSTRÖM,

inventor and foreman of the East Rockford Machine Works,



NELS J. BILLSTRÖM

was born in the city of Malmö, Sweden, Dec. 15, 1856. In 1880, at the age of twenty-four, he came to the United States after having received an elementary schooling in the old country. His father, Nels Billström, is a building contractor of Malmö. Mr. Billström located in St. Paul, but has lived in Rockford the greater part of the time since emigrating. For more than sixteen years he has been foreman of the aforesaid machine works. During this time he has employed his inventive talent to good purpose. He has invented a new barb wire machine which is a great improvement on the older ones and requires less motive power. Another invention of his is a glueing plant carrier for use in furniture factories. He holds patents for both machines, which are manufactured at the East Rockford works and both in actual use. Mr. Billström was married at Rockford, in 1881, to Anna Mathilda Olson. They have four children, Emma, Gunhild, Florence and Edna.

CARL O. CARLSON

was born July 12, 1865, in Sjöamålen, Askeryd parish, Småland, Sweden. Finishing common school at the age of fifteen he worked for five years in Sweden at home on the farm and as carpenter.



CARL O. CARLSON

He came to this country in 1885, and worked for a time in the Wells and France car shops in Chicago. Thereafter he was farming near Marathon, Iowa, for

two years, but returned to Chicago in 1887, and took an agency for real estate. When the Svea Building and Loan Association was organized, he became one of the charter members, and accepted the position of general agent. He worked in that vocation for a number of years, and was one of the directors of the association. He also was one of the organizers of the Svea Land Colony, whose principal landholdings are at Silverhill, Alabama.

Now he resides at Rockford where he is in the real estate and land business. He is a member of the First Lutheran Church of Rockford.

Mr. Carlson was married Oct. 26, 1889, to Miss Kaller, born in Askeryd, Småland, June 5, 1866. Their children are: Oscar Arthur, born 1891, and Alfhild Elizabeth, 1894.

AUGUST P. FLOBERG,

bank cashier and well-known as a business man and churchman, was born at Hellestad, Vestergötland, Sweden, Oct. 5, 1856. In July, 1868, he came to Rockford from his native land and has made this city his home ever after. He obtained his education in the Rockford schools. From his youth a member of the First Swedish Lutheran Church, he has served that church as trustee and treasurer continuously since 1876. When the Manufacturers' National Bank was established in 1889, Mr. Floberg became its cashier. This bank is now one of the strongest in the city, its deposits aggregating over



AUGUST P. FLOBERG

one million dollars. Mr. Floberg is affiliated with no organizations besides his church and his business connections.

CHARLES A. FORSBERG,

proprietor of the East Rockford Machine Works, hails from Skarhult, Skåne, Sweden, where he was born Sept. 2, 1856. His parents were Gustaf Forsberg, a blacksmith, and his wife Carolina, née Lindstedt. After attending public schools in his home parish he learned the machinist's trade and worked at it in Sweden and later in Chicago, where he located after emigrating in 1880. Having been employed in different machine shops in Chicago for a number of years, he came to Rockford in 1887 and here started the East Rockford Machine Works. This plant

has now some thirty workmen and makes a specialty of high grade barbed wire and wire netting ma-



CHARLES A. FORSBERG

chinery. Their goods are in use in all parts of the country. Mr. Forsberg is an able machinist, who has made and patented several valuable inventions. He was married in Rockford Oct. 8, 1881, to Emma Anderson, born in Örebro, Sweden, Oct. 9, 1858. They have six children, Gerda, Gustaf, Fritz, Olga, Mary and Edith.

JOHN GUSTAFSON

was born April 15, 1828, in Småland, Sweden. The circumstances in his home compelled him at an early age to earn his own living. He learned the carpenter's trade, at which he worked until emigrating to this country in 1871, and continued here for eight years more. His special talent as a Gospel teacher and the demand for ministers caused him to be called as a Mission preacher in Rockford. After two years' service here, he went in turn to Paxton, Moline,



JOHN GUSTAFSON

and Muskegon, and finally to Evanston, where he closed his career as a pastor. He is now retired and lives with his children in Rockford.

CHARLES A. HADDORFF

was born in Sweden Feb. 2, 1864. May 28, 1892, he landed on American soil, fitted for practical life by good training in several schools in the land of his birth. Before locating permanently in Rockford, he lived for some time in each of the cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minn., and Oregon, Ill.

Mr. Haddorff is a piano manufacturer and has been successful in his line, as the Haddorff Piano Co. is one of the large industries of Rockford. He is a Baptist in faith and belongs to the First

Swedish Baptist Church, in which



CHARLES A. HADDORFF

he has served many years as a deacon and trustee.

CHARLES W. HOLMQUIST,

dealer in coal and wood, was born in Rockford June 3, 1875. His



CHARLES W. HOLMQUIST

elementary education was obtained in the common schools and his business training in the Rockford Business College.

He is a member of the Emanuel Lutheran Church, and of the Rockford lodge of the Order of Columbian Knights.

GIDEON A. HOLMQUIST,

coal merchant, is a native of the city, being born in Rockford Nov. 10, 1873. He is the son of John Holmquist and his wife, Julia. The elder Holmquist came to



GIDEON AMANDUS HOLMQUIST

Rockford 36 years ago. He became a coal dealer and succeeded in building up a comfortable business, which is now conducted by the son.

G. A. Holmquist is married to Maude Almeda, daughter of Malcolm Carlson. She was born Nov. 3, 1879, in DeKalb. Having finished high school there, she pursued the study of music at Waterman Hall, Sycamore, and has given music lessons herself from

her sixteenth year. The family belongs to the First Lutheran Church.

ANDREW C. JOHNSON,

the first Swedish furniture manufacturer of Rockford, was born in



ANDREW C. JOHNSON

Törneryd, Blekinge, Sweden, Aug. 16, 1836. His parents were Carl Jönsson, a farmer, and his wife, Lena Persson. The parents with their four sons emigrated in 1854, and after living for a few months at St. Charles, settled permanently in Rockford in June, 1855.

In 1865, Mr. Johnson, who had learned the cabinetmaker's trade after coming to Rockford, went into partnership with John Nelson, the inventor, and Gustaf Hollem, for the manufacture of sash, doors and blinds. After four years Mr. Johnson bought out his partners and conducted the business as sole proprietor. At this juncture he began in a small way to make furniture, and in 1871 associated himself with J. P. Anderson, this firm developing the furniture branch of the business so as to enter the general market. In 1873 L. D. Upham was taken into the firm and a factory was erected on the present site of the Central Furniture Company's plant. In 1874 Mr. Johnsold his interest, his successor being E. L. Herrick. The same year the late Mr. Cuthbert Woodruff became interested in this industry and in 1875 the Forest City Furniture Co. was organized, with Mr. Johnson as superintendent. This was the pioneer furniture factory in Rockford and Mr. Johnson remained as superintendent for a long period. When he retired from active work he still retained a financial interest in the plant.

Mr. Johnson was first married in 1860. From that union there survives a son, Theodore, married to Miss Jennie Lindstrom of Rockford. Mr. Johnson was again married June 4, 1875, to Hilma Augusta Zellen of Rockford. In this marriage there are three daughters, Alma Olivia, Mabel Frances Dorothea and Winifred Eugenia.

Mr. Johnson has been connected with the First Lutheran Church of Rockford since 1855 and served several years as a member of its board of deacons. In the seventies he was elected supervisor of the city. He lives in retirement and with his family occupies a comfortable home at 100 Sixth st.

WILLIAM JOHNSON,

who carries on a lucrative real estate business, was born in Ödes-



WILLIAM JOHNSON

hög, Linköpings län, Sweden, May 1, 1849. On his 21st birthday he landed in this country, and lived for some time in New York and Chicago before settling in Rockford. His education was acquired in the public schools of Sweden and in an American commercial college.

Mr. Johnson has been active in church and political circles alike, being a trustee of the First Swedish Lutheran Church for a number of years and having served several terms in the city council. He was first elected alderman of the Second ward in April, 1899, and has served eight years in the council, having been elected four times in succession.

GUSTAF E. JOHNSON,

partner of his younger brother in the law firm of Johnson & Johnson, was born in Chicago Nov. 1, 1874. He spent his boyhood on his father's farm in Champaign county, Ill., working during the summer and attending public school in the winter months. In the spring of 1899 he entered the law offices of Kerr and Lindley at Paxton and was admitted to the bar in May, 1902. In the fall of the same



GUSTAF E. JOHNSON

year he formed a law partnership with his brother William at Rockford, where the latter had opened a law office the year before. Mr. Johnson is a Lutheran in faith.

NILS P. JOHNSON,

merchant tailor, was born at Hjortshög, Skåne, Sweden, March 22,

1860. He came over to this country in May, 1881, and settled in this city. He has a public school



NILS PETER JOHNSON

education, acquired in the place of his birth. May 8, 1885, four years after his arrival in Rockford, he was married here to Ingrid Lindström from Hjerup, Skåne, born April 2, 1863. The couple have two sons, George Algot and Albin Leonard. Mr. Johnson has conducted a tailoring establishment for a number of years. In his religious convictions he is a Methodist, and has served the local Swedish M. E. church for some time as a trustee.

WILLIAM JOHNSON,

member of the law firm of Johnson & Johnson, was born in Chicago Oct. 23, 1876. While he yet was of tender age, his parents moved to a farm in Champaign county, Ill., where he grew to rugged manhood performing the duties incumbent on the boy of the farm and attending the public schools in winter.

He matriculated in the law class of the Northern Illinois College of Law at Dixon, Ill., Sept. 1, 1897, and successfully pursued the course of legal study prescribed by the college and graduated with honor in the post-graduate class in May, 1900, receiving the degree of LL. M. (Master of Laws). In conjunction with his law course he was under the instruction and in the law office of H. A. Brooks, a practicing attorney of Dixon, Ill. for a period of two years.

While attending college he took a very prominent part in society



WILLIAM JOHNSON

work, debating and parliamentary law, is a very fluent speaker and has a diploma from the Dixon College of Oratory.

He successfully passed his examination for admission to the bar held at Mt. Vernon, Ill., in

December, 1900, and was during that month admitted to practice law at the bar.

During the latter part of February, 1901, he opened a law office at 527 Seventh st., Rockford, and, although a stranger in the city, managed from the start to build up a satisfactory law practice, and in September, 1902, formed a law partnership with his brother under the firm name of Johnson & Johnson, who are at present enjoying a good practice.

Mr. Johnson is a member of the Lutheran Church and of the orders of Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias.

GUSTAF JOHNSON,

Chief Deputy Sheriff for more than ten years, was born in the parish of Rydaholm, Småland, Sweden, Sept. 26, 1852. His parents were Johannes Gabrielson and Martha C. Anderson, farmer folk of Rydaholm. After some schooling in Sweden he continued his studies in the public schools and at Arnold's Business College in Rockford where the family located after emigrating in 1868. He is married to Anna C. Johnson, born Oct. 8, 1856, daughter of Olof Johnson, a farmer of Mjelldrunga parish, Vestergötland, their wedding being celebrated Sept. 19, 1877. The couple have had four children, William G. and Ernest V., twins; Arthur L. and Edna B., deceased. Mr. Johnson carries on a large express business, begun in a small way when he established a bus line and express service in 1877. He has been a member of the Republican county central committee for



GUSTAF JOHNSON

more than fifteen years and has often been a delegate to state conventions. From its organization until 1902, when he declined the place, he was an officer of the Swedish-American Republican State League of Illinois. Mr. Johnson is financially interested in many business concerns, being a stockholder and director in the Swedish Building and Loan Association, the Union Grocery Company, Scandia Hardware Company and Rockford Furniture and Undertaking Company. He belongs to the First Lutheran Church and to the Modern Woodmen of America.

PER GOTTFRID LAON

was born in Ålsäter, Södermanland, March 6, 1867. He was educated at the Carolinian medical institute of Stockholm and subse-

quently was assistant at the Serafimer Lasarett. Having also studied dental surgery in the old



PER GOTTFRID LAON

country, he came to Chicago in 1893 and here continued his studies at the Northwestern School of Dental Surgery, graduating in 1895. Prior to graduation he was assistant in the dental office of Dr. P. Wm. Thorelius. In 1897 he located in Rockford, where he is the only Swedish dentist and enjoys an extensive practice. In 1895 he was married to Miss Hattie Anderson of Marinette, Wisconsin.

ALFRED G. LARSON,

mason contractor and builder, came to the United States in 1878 from Sweden, where he was born Sept. 5, 1857, in Warnum parish, in the län of Elfsborg. His father had gone to the United States in 1866 and three years later sent for his wife, leaving the boy of twelve to shift for himself among relatives and strangers for nine years. He learned the stonecutter's trade in the meantime, and in October, 1878, rejoined his parents, arriving at their home in Walnut, Bureau county, Ill. In 1881 he removed to Rockford to take up his trade. After five years he engaged in general contracting and building,and is still pursuing this line of business. He was married Oct. 6, 1883, to Selma J. Peterson; they have had in all five children, the oldest two dying in infancy.

Mr. Larson has been a trustee of the First Lutheran Church and for



ALFRED G. LARSON

more than fourteen years was president of the Svea Söner Singing Society; has been a member of the Board of Supervisors of Winnebago county; member of the city council of Rockford in 1898–99; member of the executive com-

mittee and treasurer of the Republican County Central Committee; member of the Library Board, and superintendent of streets, both by appointment, and secretary of the local board of improvements. He has always been a Republican and takes a lively interest in public affairs.

When the Scandia Life Insurance Co. was removed from Galesburg to Chicago, Mr. Larson was chosen a director; in 1905 he was elected member of the board of managers and re-elected in 1906 for a three year term.

ALBERT LAWSON

was born in Rudskoga, Vermland, Sweden, in September, 1866, his parents then being farmers. When he was three years old, his mother died. The father then lost interest in farming, sold his farm and went back to his early trade as house builder. The mechanical traits of the father manifested themselves early in his son when at the age of six years he was found working at the bench. At an early age, Mr. Lawson entered the Stenby sloyd school in Vestmanland and there took up a course of sloyd. While there he entered the employ of the Stockholm, Vesterås and Bergslagen Railway Company and worked in their shops at Vesterås between terms of school. In 1879 he was confirmed under age by special permission his father having been dead for three years. Shortly after the confirmation he decided to emigrate to America, there being nothing to keep him in his native land after both his



ALBERT LAWSON

parents were gone. Arriving in this country in 1879, he went to Perth Amboy, N. Y. where he remained for some time and worked at anything he could get to do to earn a living. In 1880 he went to Minneapolis, Minn., where he worked in different capacities but remained in the employ of the D. M. Gillmore Furniture Mfg. Co. for over six years, which was the real beginning of his present career. He also worked for the Barnard Coop. Furniture Co. of the same place. In 1888 he was offered a position as general foreman of the machine and woodworking departments in the factory of Muskegon Valley Furniture Co., Muskegon, Mich., which he accepted and held for eight years. From that place he hired out to the Michigan Trust

Company of Grand Rapids Mich., which at that time operated a furniture factory at Ionia, Mich., where Mr. Lawson held the position as general foreman. He next took a position with the Connersville Furniture Mfg. Co. of Connersville, Ind. and served in the capacity of superintendent for the machinery and woodworking departments in their large factory. About eight years ago Mr. Lawson received an offer to go to Rockford, Ill., to become general superintendent and designer for the large factories of the Forest City Furniture Co. This position Mr. Lawson still holds and it is probable that he will make Rockford his home for the future as he has acquired a home there, the comforts of which he enjoys together with his devoted wife and one son.

CARL O. E. LOFGREN,

established in Rockford since 1901 as a physician and surgeon, is a native of this state. He was born in Chicago Feb. 27, 1874, but the year of his birth the family moved to Rockford, where his father, Otto Lofgren, became a furniture factory worker. As a boy he attended public school and was employed during vacations in various stores and factories here. In 1891 he was enrolled at Augustana College. After graduation from the college he taught at the orphanage in Andover for a year, and in 1897 took up the study of medicine at the University of Iowa. During the war with Spain he discontinued his studies and went to Cuba and Porto Rico as a member of the hospital corps of



CARL OTTO EMIL LOFGREN

the Sixth Illinois regiment. After his return he spent another year in the medical department of the University of Iowa, but completed the course at the Northwestern University Medical School. After graduation, he returned to Rockford and began a medical and surgical practice in his home city, meeting with eminent success. May 4, 1893, Mayor C. A. Jackson appointed him commissioner of health for the city and he served until May 4, 1907. He is a member of the Spanish-American War Veterans' Association, and was elected department surgeon for Illinois in 1907, and is also post surgeon of the Arthur E. Fisher Camp No. 5 of that organization. Dr. Lofgren is a member of the Zion Swedish Lutheran Church and of the Svea

Söner Singing Society. He is a Republican but no politician.

On June 7, 1905, Dr. Lofgren wedded Miss Alma Kathrina, daughter of Nels P. and Johanna Bengtson, born in Sweden Feb. 19, 1873. They had a daughter, Kathrine Eleonora, born on June 18, 1906, but died Aug. 19, 1906.

ALFRED T. LINDGREN,

secretary of the Swedish Building and Loan Association and organist of the First Swedish Lutheran Church, is a native of Vestergötland, Sweden, where he was born Jan. 15, 1852, at Lindåsen, Hellestad parish. His father, Johannes Jonsson, was a landowner and a clothing merchant. Both parents passed away in Sweden.

Mr. Lindgren attended public school and had private tuition in Sweden until sixteen years old, when he came to the United States, locating in Galesburg. By self-study he acquired English, then took a business course and finally obtained his musical education in the Knox College Conservatory. From 1868 to 1890 he lived in Galesburg, save for the year 1871, spent in Chicago as a grocery salesman, and two years' employment 1887–88 in the office of the general superintendent of the C. B. & Q. R. R.

He began as office boy in the office of the division superintendent at Galesburg in 1872 and advanced to chief clerk. In 1873 he assumed the position of organist and choirmaster of the First Swedish Lutheran Church in Galesburg, which he retained until his removal to Rockford in January, 1890.



ALFRED THORSTEN LINDGREN

In Rockford, Mr. Lindgren at once took the position of secretary of the Swedish Building and Loan Association, which he has held these eighteen years. Simultaneously he accepted a call to become organist of the First Swedish Lutheran Church in this city, a position also retained by him up to the present. In his church he has been a member of the board of trustees since 1896.

Mr. Lindgren is a member of the state committee inspecting alms houses and jails in Winnebago county.

He has sought recreation and instruction in extensive travel in this country and Europe, Sweden in particular.

Mr. Lindgren is a man of benevolent spirit. To his native parish he has donated a fund, now

exceeding 700 crowns, toward the purchase of an organ for its newly erected church edifice. More than that, he granted the parish a loan of 4,000 crowns without interest by way of aiding in the completion of the structure.

Jan. 25, 1882, Mr. Lindgren married Miss Nellie Fredrika Olson, daughter of Anders and Inga Olson of Knoxville, Ill., born Sept. 19, 1861. They have an only child, Caroline. She is a devoted student of the organ and of sacred music and is now organist of the Centennial M. E. Church of Rockford.

SWAN O. WIDELL,

real estate dealer and justice of the peace, has lived in Rockford since July 7, 1887, when he came there from Sweden. He was born in Jarsnäre parish, Småland, Dec. 2, 1866, and attended public school in the old country, where he also learned the cabinetmaker's trade. His father, Sven A. Skarp, until his death belonged to the Jönköping regiment of the standing army of Sweden. He died in Forserum, Småland, in 1891, leaving a widow who still resides there. When Mr. Widell first came to Rockford he began work as cabinetmaker at the Central Furniture Company's plant and later worked at the Scandia Furniture factory until 1890 when he engaged in the realty and loan business which has proven more profitable.

He married May 14, 1891, to Maria Albertina Lindström, born Feb. 19, 1870, at Dunkahalla, Jönköping, Småland. Their children



SWAN O. WIDELL

are: George Oscar Clarence, Burt Leonard and Edna Dorothea. The family are members of the Swedish Lutheran Church and Mr. Widell is a singer in the Svea Söner Singing Society and of many other organizations. He was elected justice of the peace in 1900, re-elected in 1904 and still holds the place, with his office at 528 Seventh st.

JOHAN V. LUNDHOLM,

proprietor of the North Star Pharmacy, was born in the parish of Mörlunda, Småland, Sweden, Sept. 11, 1856. At nine years, he lost his father by death. Having studied at the collegiate school of Kalmar he was registered as a student of pharmacy with the official apothecary at Högsby in 1873.

He passed the examination in 1876 and in 1881 entered the Pharmaceutical Institute of Stock-



JOHAN VICTOR LUNDHOLM

holm and there graduated as a dispenser and pharmacist in 1883. Finding the outlook dark owing to the slow system of advancement prevalent in the old country, he left Sweden for the United States in 1887. For a short time he was employed at Paxton, then had various situations in Chicago. In 1891 he removed to Rockford and the following year he purchased the drug store known as "Apoteket Nordstjernan." By hard work and strict business methods he has succeeded in establishing one of the leading pharmacies in the city.

Mr. Lundholm has been twice married. His first wife was Alfrida Wirstedt of Chicago, who died there in 1895. There were in this union three children, of whom two, Sonja Alfrida and Joseph Sebastian, survive. On June 19, 1901, he was married to Miss Hilma Esterquist of Chicago, born May 17, 1870. Their children are, Stanley Victor Emanuel, born 1902, and Camilla Ruth Ingeborg, 1904.

NELS P. NELSON,

attorney and member of the city council, was born in the parish of Eldsberga, Halland, Sweden, Oct. 23, 1865. His parents, Nils and Petronella Bengtsson, who were farmer folk, both died in the old country. The son emigrated in 1885, having enjoyed an elementary education in the Swedish common schools.

Mr. Nelson located at Putnam, Ill., and there worked on a farm



NELS PETER NELSON

for five years. Then he went to the state of Washington and for three years was employed in a sawmill, of which his brother, John Nelson, was part owner.

After that he spent a year in the mountains of Idaho, riding the range. While occupied as a cowboy and rancher he also tried prospecting, but with indifferent success. He returned to Illinois in 1893 to get a glimpse at the World's Fair at Chicago, then went back to Putnam and farmed for another year in that locality. In January, 1895, he entered Augustana College and pursued an eclectic course there until the spring of 1899, when he assumed temporary charge of a church in Buffalo, N. Y., for one year. Mr. Nelson, having settled on the law as his future profession, began preparation at the Drake University law school. The second year in the course he spent at the University of Nebraska, where he obtained his diploma in June, 1902, and was subsequently admitted to the bar. He did not engage in legal practice at once, but coming to Rockford secured a position as foreman of the stock room of the Illinois Sewing Machine Company. Leaving that position after three years, he took up the practice of law at Rockford in January, 1906, having passed the bar examination in Springfield in October, 1903.

In the spring election of 1907 Mr. Nelson entered the aldermanic contest in the Second ward and came out victorious in the fight, being elected to the city council April 16.

His marriage took place Oct. 12, 1903. His bride was Miss Caroline B. Norlin, a daughter of Charles and Betsy Norlin of Putnam. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson have had a son, who died in infancy. A second son, Carroll Homer, was born June 15, 1907. They are members of the Zion Swedish Lutheran Church, which Mr. Nelson has served as a trustee since 1903. He belongs to the North Star and Modern Woodmen orders.

WILLIAM NELSON,

one of the most eminent citizens of Rockford, was born at Syca-



WILLIAM NELSON

more, Ill., Oct. 29, 1857. His father was John Nelson from Kärråkra, Vestergötland, the inventor of a knitting machine which has played an important part in the industrial development of the city of Rockford. After many years of experimental work he succeeded in making a practical machine, which was subsequently brought nearer and nearer to perfection by the inventor and his sons. William Nelson, who became a part-

ner of his father at an early age, has steadily developed the knitting factory founded by the elder Nelson, until it is now one of the largest of its kind in the United States.

As a youth, Mr. Nelson attended the public and high school of his home city. He is married and has a family of five children, named Lovisa, Elsie, Dorothy, Hilding and William. Mrs. Olivia Nelson was born July 20, 1867, at Bokhillsäter, Vermland.

Mr. Nelson has extensive manufacturing and business interests: he is the president of the Forest City Knitting Company, vice-president of the Nelson Knitting Company, president of the Nelson Hotel Company, and vice-president of B. F. Barnes & Co. He is a a member of the following Masonic bodies, viz.: Freeport Consistory, Shriner of Tebala Temple, Rockford, and Knight Templar of the Crusade Commandery of that city.

On Jan. 28, 1901, he was appointed one of the aids of Governor Richard Yates, with the rank of Colonel. Not long afterward, Col. and Mrs. Nelson entertained Gov. and Mrs. Yates at their beautiful home on North Main st., together with a number of other distinguished guests, the occasion being one of the most splendid in the social affairs of Rockford.

AUGUST NYLANDER,

born at Nye in the län of Jönköping, Sweden, Oct. 16, 1869 came over to this country in 1888 and lived in Sycamore and Aurora before eventually locating in Rock-



AUGUST NYLANDER

ford. During his first two years in the United States he worked on a farm in Winnebago county, afterwards plying the carpenter's trade until 1895, when he went into the grocery business in partnership with Charles Castenson, continuing until 1901. In the following year Mr. Nylander was appointed overseer of the poor. For three years from the year 1900, inclusive, he was superintendent of Postal Station No. 2. For various periods he has been a member of the County Board, of the School Board and of the Republican County Central Committee.

Mr. Nylander belongs to the First Swedish Lutheran Church of Rockford.

PEHR AUGUST PETERSON is the recognized leading manufacturer of the city of Rockford.



PEHR AUGUST PETERSON

He is the organizing genius of the great furniture and piano industry of that city. Following out the cooperative system of production, he has been instrumental in establishing the major part of the furniture factories for which Rockford is justly famous. He is now and during the past thirty years has been directly or indirectly interested in more industrial enterprises than any other man in Rockford and, we daresay, any other Swedish-American in the United States. His career is a highly interesting one.

Pehr August Peterson was born in Ving, Vestergötland, Sweden, Sept. 8, 1848. In 1852 his parents, P. A. Peterson, Sr., and wife, emigrated to America, destined for Chicago. Learning there that the country offered better opportunities for newcomers, they proceeded to Rockford, then but a small town. The Peterson family were among the first Swedish settlers in Winnebago county. They located on a farm on which the son grew up under none too favorable conditions incidental to the life of pioneer farmers. His early training consisted of years of hard work on the farm and not much schooling.

At about twenty-seven years of age he entered a business college, determined to remedy the defects in his education. When in March, 1876, the Union Furniture Company was organized, the young commercial student was given the position of secretary of the company, the first step in a business career that was to become remarkable. He soon realized the excellent outlook for the furniture manufacture in the West, the favorable conditions obtaining in Rockford and the advantages of the cooperative system to all interested, whether managers and directors or workmen. During the next few years company after company was organized on this plan, and almost invariably Mr. Peterson was one of the promoters, became financially interested and was chosen president, vice-president or director.

The great panic of 1893 and the resultant business depression played havoc with the industries of Rockford. Several establishments went down in the general crash, but the stronger ones weathered the storm. New plants

had been built largely on credit and on the most unbounded confidence of moneyed men in Mr. Peterson and those interested with him. These naturally suffered worst and the difficulties that he had in his efforts to keep his "infant industries" alive would have driven most men to despair. He drew on every resource, but without avail, and more than one of the enterprises that he had fathered went by the board. But a man of his stamp was not to be downed. With the revival in business following the crisis, Mr. Peterson rallied, and he is now a greater industrial captain than before. He rehabilitated himself in a manner that does credit to his head and heart alike—not by wiping out old scores and opening new books, but by conscientiously paying up old accounts as fast as his new resources would permit.

In one way or another Mr. Peterson has been connected with sundry enterprises, besides industrial ones, among his fellow countrymen in Rockford. Prior to the panic he had large investments in realty and in 1890–91 built about one hundred houses in east Rockford, thereby materially aiding in the development of that quarter of the city.

In 1906 Mr. Peterson was chosen president of the Swedish-American Republican League of Illinois.

CHARLES J. LUNDBERG, furniture manufacturer, was born of Swedish parents at Kirkland, Ills., De Kalb co., Oct. 28, 1871. He attended the country schools, afterwards removing to the city of Rockford and attended the Rock-



CHARLES J. LUNDBERG

ford Business College, completing a business course in a very short period of time. He then became a teacher of book-keeping in the evening school at the college, but resigned his position to become book-keeper for the Star Furniture Co., in which capacity he served for some time, afterwards being elected secretary and treasurer of the company which position he held for a period. Mr. Lundberg sold his interest in the company and started on the road selling furniture for the Rockford Desk Co., in which company he was president and heavily interested financially, and traveled for three years. He later sold his interest to Oscar Bergquist, the present secretary and treasurer, and purchased the plant now known as the Co-Oper-

ative Furniture Co., from the assignee, F. F. Wormwood. All the capital he had at that time was accumulated by himself through hard manual labor, during his first three years in the city. He had worked at the different furniture factories, starting at the Forest City Furniture Co., working in the machine room at 75 cents per day. Mr. Lundberg was in 1907 reelected to the office of vice-president of the National Furniture Association of America.

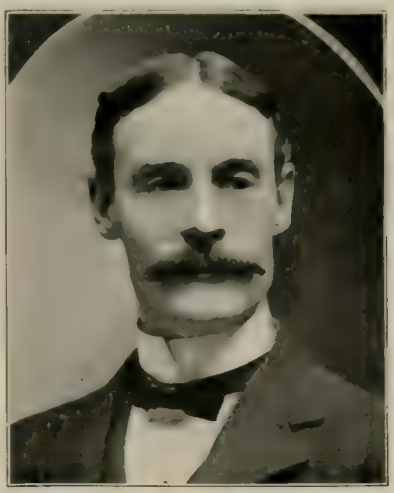
He was appointed the purchasing agent for Rockford, all the purchases for the entire city being placed in his hands. Mr. Lundberg was elected alderman of the first ward in 1903 and still holds the position.

At present he is secretary, treasurer and general manager of the Co-Operative Furniture Co., owning the controlling interest in the company with a capital of $50,000.00 paid in, $45,000.00 surplus, and doing a business of $150,000.00 per annum.

Mrs. Olga Olive Lundberg is of Swedish descent and was born Sept. 28, 1876 and was married on her birthday in 1898. She attended Augustana College, taking the music course. Mr. and Mrs. Lundberg are members of the Zion Swedish Lutheran Church in which Mr. Lundberg has been a trustee.

C. G. W. SANDEHN,

member of the firm of D. J. Stewart & Co., the largest dry goods house in Rockford, came to the city the last day of the year 1879. He then entered the employ of George Mills. Half a year later



CHARLES G. W. SANDEHN

he was employed in the dry goods house of S. Withrow, remaining until September, 1881, when he changed to C. W. Brown & Co. and next to Stewart & Co., where he continued until May, 1896, when he, together with L. K. Ross, opened a dry goods house on Seventh st. under the firm name of Sandehn & Ross. Sept. 1, 1901, Mr. Sandehn became sole owner and continued the business alone until the following February, when he closed out and became a stockholder and director in the firm of D. J. Stewart & Co.

In 1888 Mr. Sandehn was married to Carolina Johnson, daughter of A. C. Johnson, the pioneer furniture maker of Rockford. They have had five children, three boys and two girls, one boy dying in infancy. Mrs. Sandehn died at

Upland, Cal., Feb. 5, 1906. In 1907 Mr. Sandehn married Celia V. Beckstrand, daughter of O. A. Beckstrand, deceased 1895.

Mr. Sandehn is a native of Sweden, being born in Jönköping on June 3, 1861. In that city he attended the collegiate school. After emigrating in September, 1876, he entered public school at Galva, continuing his studies during that winter. The following spring he obtained employment with R. R. Cable & Co. at Cable, Ill., and left there for Rockford in 1879.

He is a Lutheran and has been a trustee of the First Swedish Lutheran Church for twelve years. He has served three terms as supervisor of Winnebago county.

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NILS P. SJÖSTRÖM,

pastor of the Zion Swedish Lutheran Church of Rockford since 1901, was born in Arnäs, Vesternorrlands län, Sweden, July 1, 1866. He is the son of Olof Larson, a farmer, and his wife, Anna Margareta Johanson. At the age of nineteen he emigrated, going first to Denver, Colo. He studied for three years at Bethany College, Lindsborg, Kan., and at Augustana College for four years, graduating in 1893. The same year he was sent as the representative of the students of Augustana College to attend the 300th anniversary of the introduction of Lutheranism in Sweden. After his return he entered the theological school at Augustana, was graduated two years later and was ordained a Lutheran minister of the Gospel at the meeting of the Augustana Synod at Chicago in the summer of 1895.



NILS P. SJÖSTRÖM

His first pastoral charges were the Swedish Lutheran churches at Springfield and E. Long Meadow Mass. After 5½ years of service in this field, he accepted a call from the Zion Swedish Lutheran Church at Rockford, taking charge Jan. 1, 1901.

As a preacher and pastor, Rev. Sjöström is successful, and he is held in high esteem by his parishioners.

June 5, 1907, Rev. Sjöström was united in marriage to Anna C. Ekfelt from Chariton, Ia.

CARL E. STRÖMBERG,

established in Rockford since 1897 as a fresco painter, was born at Tengelsås, Holmby parish, Skåne, Sweden, Dec. 31, 1871. When the son was two years old, his

father, Carl Johan Strömberg, a miller, was killed in the machinery. The boy, however, was given



CARL EDWARD STRÖMBERG

a good education along artistic lines. He received his first instruction from Professor Borggren in the art department of the technical school of Malmö. Later he studied under Professor Thulin of the Lund University, known all over the Scandinavian countries for his Gothic church decorations. Mr. Strömberg has traveled extensively in Europe, especially in Germany and France, studying and making technical observations. In 1891 he returned to Sweden, and in 1893 he came to the United States after having again visited Berlin and Paris.

He executes artistic mural decorations and frescoes in churches, theaters and other public buildings as well as interior decorations of fine private dwellings.

Mrs. Strömberg's maiden name was Hilma Elida Åkesson. She is the daughter of Bernhard Kristian Åkesson, who is superintendent of the celebrated Kochum wharf and shipbuilding establishment at Malmö. The pair have a daughter, Ruth Elizabeth.

CARL W. SUNDMARK,

pastor of the Swedish Baptist Church, was born at Smedjebacken, Dalarne, Sweden, Dec. 16, 1865. In early life he had a great desire for an education, which, however, was limited to that acquired in the common school, supplemented by a little private instruction. He was employed at the Fagersta factory in Vestman-



CARL WILHELM SUNDMARK

land, where he learned the blacksmith's trade. He emigrated in 1886, locating in Northern Michigan. While in Sweden he had often conducted religious meetings and this he continued among his brethren in faith in these locali-

ties, subsequently accepting a call to preach temporarily in the Baptist Church at Ludington and later to become its regular pastor. He was ordained in 1888 for the said charge. The following year he entered the Swedish Department of the divinity school of the University of Chicago, and was graduated in the spring of 1893, when he assumed charge of the Salem Baptist Church of Chicago. Although serving only a year, the number of members through his efforts was increased from 40 to more than 80. He next took charge of the church at Stromsburg, Neb., where he had served while a student, and now served from 1894 to 1897 as its pastor, afterwards serving the Harlem St. Baptist Church of Worcester, Mass., for an equal period. In 1900, hearkening to a call from his birth-place, he returned to Sweden and served for two years as pastor of the Baptist flock in Smedjebacken, Dalarne. After laboring a short time in Jamestown, N. Y. he removed to Rockford, and since April 1, 1903, has served as pastor of the Swedish Baptist congregation, which was organized in 1880 and now has a membership of 270.

Sept. 6, 1893, Rev. Sundmark was united in marriage to Miss Ida Johnson, born in Mead, Neb., Sept. 5, 1871. They have four children, born in the order named: Ruth Ethel W., 1897; F. Adelia, 1899; Florence Dorothy, 1904, and Roger William, 1906.

J. E. SWANSON

was born in the parish of Tutaryd, Småland, Sweden, Jan. 19, 1864.



J. E. SWANSON

Emigrating in 1880, he came to De Kalb and ultimately to Rockford ten years afterward. He received his education at the city schools and the Rockford Business College, after which he engaged in commercial pursuits with success. He is now secretary and treasurer and general manager of the Rockford Standard Furniture Company. Mr. Swanson is a member of the First Swedish Lutheran Church of Rockford.

Sept. 22, 1897, Mr. Swanson was married to Hannah C. Gustafson. Three children have been born to them.

OSCAR A. THOLIN,

who for eighteen years has been in the painting and decorating trade with his place of business at 613 Seventh st., has lived in

Rockford since 1880, when he came over from the old country. He was born in the little city of



OSCAR A. THOLIN

Grenna, Småland, May 5, 1863. Mr. Tholin has taken contracts for interior decoration and frescoing of a number of churches, including the Swedish Lutheran edifices at De Kalb, Woodhull, Lily Lake, Geneva, Sycamore, Pecatonica, Belvidere, and the Salem Church in Chicago; also a church in Bergen, Wisconsin.

With his wife, Ida, he has two sons, Agder and Rudolph. Mr. Tholin s a member of Camp 20, Modern Woodmen of America.

CARL E. TRAGARDH,

has been in the drug business in Rockford since he came to Rockford from the old country in 1888. The first two years he clerked in different drug stores and in 1890 engaged in the business for himself, going into partnership with O. Ebbesen and opening a drug store under the firm name of Tragardh and Ebbesen. In Lund, Sweden, where he was born Nov. 1, 1866, Mr. Tragardh was educated in the collegiate institute and subsequently completed the course in the Pharmaceutical Institute at Stockholm.

He was appointed state food inspector in 1898 by Governor Tanner and re-appointed in 1900 by Governor Yates. He is an active Republican and has served as secretary of the Swedish-American Republican Club of Winnebago county. Mr. Tragardh is a member of the Phar-



CARL E. TRAGARDH

maceutical Association of Stockholm and of the National Druggists' Association of America.

CHARLES C. LOFQUEST,

dramatic editor of the Rockford Daily *Republic*, was born of Swed-

ish parentage in Copenhagen Sept. 7, 1879, and was brought to America the following year. He studied



CHARLES C. LOFQUEST

at Adelphi Academy and Brooklyn high school while living in that city and subsequently at Stratton's Business College in New York and at Upsala University. He began his journalistic career as a reporter, working on the New York *World*, Brooklyn *Eagle*, New York *Journal*, and Brooklyn *Citizen*, and was literary editor of *Music and Stage* in 1900. He was a political speaker in New York during Odell's gubernatorial campaign, and has lectured on Swedish history before the South Brooklyn Historical Society under the auspices of the Brooklyn Board of Education.

Mr. Lofquest has been a resident of Rockford four years. Since his connection with the *Republic* he has done some notable dramatic reviewing, which has found favor with those who closely follow the activities of the drama.

In the last five years he has devoted much of his time to short-story writing and bids fair to make a name for himself in American literature. A number of his contributions have appeared in the leading magazines. Among some of his short tales which have made a hit may be mentioned: Prince Pautqua, Olt Peeter, Il Rosso Ruggiero, Sebastiao, The Little Brother of God, Col. Chester's Resignation, Calliope Pete, Trespassers, A Limb of the Law, and Monsieur Giffard.

His parents are Sven Aaron Lofquest and Johanna Nilsson. The elder Lofquest is a shoe merchant on Broadway, New York, and resides in Brooklyn. In the middle seventies he was U. S. Consul at a Swedish port. The mother of the younger Lofquest came from a family of soldiers; her grandfather was a colonel in the Swedish army.

Mr. Lofquest is married to Miss Christine Mitchell.

OTTO W. PAULSON

was born Feb. 27, 1873, in Sweden. His parents emigrated with their family in May, 1880, and settled at Valley Springs, S. D., removing to Rockford in December, 1881. The son, after finishing the grades of the public school, obtained work in furniture factories and learned wood-carving. He worked at his trade until January, 1892, when he entered the commercial department at

Augustana College, from which he was graduated June 7, 1893. After working two years as a



OTTO W. PAULSON

bookkeeper, he became agent and then assistant superintendent with the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. Since March 2, 1902, Mr. Paulson has acted as general agent and manager of the Rockford district for the Scandia Life Insurance Co. of Chicago.

Mr. Paulson was elected alderman of the big Second ward in May, 1905, and was reelected in 1907. Since January, 1907, he has been secretary of Svea Söner Singing Society.

CARL VICTOR URBOM

was born in Hammar parish, Nerike, Sweden, Nov. 29, 1859. At the age of 24 he emigrated and came to Rockford. His parents were Carl Johan Janson, a farmer, and Sophia Urbom. For many years Mr. Urbom was a shoe dealer in Rockford; in the meanwhile he studied privately with the ultimate view of becoming a physician, and was graduated April 11, 1903, from the Hering Medical College, Chicago. Since July 15th of that year he has practiced medicine in Rockford, being the only Swedish homoepathic physician in the city.

He is a member of the Swedenborgian Church and has been president of the Swedish-American New Church Association.

His wife, Augusta, née Olson, born in 1858, is now dead. Their



CARL VICTOR URBOM

children are six in number, Fredrik, Frantz, Clara, Charles, Anna and George.

DE KALB COUNTY

ADOLPH T. ANDERSON

is a farmer at Elva Station, in his native town of De Kalb. He

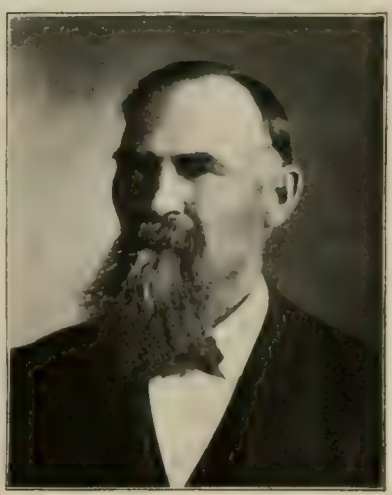


ADOLPH THEODORE ANDERSON

was born in Afton Township, this county, Sept. 22, 1865. He has enjoyed a common school education in his home district. Mr. Anderson stands well in the community and the church; he has served on the school board and as Commissioner of Public Highways; in the local Swedish Lutheran church he has been a trustee for a long period.

AUGUST ANDERSON

was born in Jerlöf, Veddige, Halland, Jan. 24, 1844. He came to this country in 1865, and resided for some little time in Jamesburg, N. Y. and came from there to Chicago. Here he met Rev. Erland Carlsson who advised him to go to Batavia. As the Swedish Lutheran church had as yet not been organized in Batavia he joined the one in Geneva, the neighboring town, in 1865 and at the annual meeting of that church the following year he was elected deacon. In 1871 he moved to Chicago, where he was burned out in the great fire. He now returned to Batavia, where he had acquired a house before he went to Chicago, into which he now moved. In the second story of that same house the Swedes used to gather and listen to the Gospel, and it was here that the Swedish Ev. Lutheran Bethania Church was organized in 1872.



AUGUST ANDERSON

Mr. Anderson was elected a deacon of the newly organized church and served in that capacity until he removed from

Batavia in 1878. While he lived there he did much to encourage the little congregation.

In 1878 Mr. Anderson moved to the neighborhood of Malta, where he still resides and is owner of 400 acres of land. He joined the Swedish Lutheran Church of De Kalb of which he still is a member. He has served that church as deacon for more than twenty years.

Mr. Anderson was married in October, 1868, to Inga Lena Erikson with whom he has had 12 children, two of whom are dead and two are married. The rest of the children live with the parents and help on the farm with the exception of the oldest son who lives in Sycamore, Ill. Mr. Anderson has for years been school trustee in Malta township.

JAMES O. BJÖRKMAN,

clothing merchant, is a native of the state, born Dec. 21, 1876, at Aledo. He attended the public school there until he attained the age of fourteen. When thirteen years old he began work as salesman in a cigar and news stand, continuing until sixteen, when he became a clothing and dry goods salesman. He was thus employed in his native town for ten years.

In the spring of 1901 he came to DeKalb and opened a retail clothing store. A year later he sold a half interest to R. J. Frankle, conducting the business in the firm name of Björkman & Frankle. After another year he bought out his partner and since then conducts the business in his own name. Mr. Björkman takes pride in the fact that by his own



JAMES O. BJÖRKMAN

effort he has built up a business that is one of the finest of its kind in the county. More recently he has opened a second store in DeKalb, known as the East End Clothing House.

He belongs to a number of lodges and societies, such as the Knights of Pythias, the M. W. of A., the F. O. of Eagles, the Independent Order of Vikings and the North Star Benefit Association.

Jan. 22, 1900, he was married at Galesburg to Bettie C. Youngren, born June 15, 1876. A son, Lester Lee, is the fruit of this union.

Mr. Björkman's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Björkman, came to this country in 1861 and are still living.

PETER CHRISTIANSON,

masonry contractor, was born in Skåne, Sweden, Nov. 30, 1866.



PETER CHRISTIANSON

He emigrated at the age of twenty-one, locating in Rockford. During the financial stringency in that city he removed with his family to DeKalb, where he has since been successfully engaged as a contracting mason. The family owns a comfortable home in the Ellwood addition.

He was married in 1888 to Miss Bessie Nilson, and they have three children, Edward William, Rudolph Evald and Percy Bernhard.

Mr. Christianson is a member of the Court of Honor and has served as treasurer of the local lodge.

CLAUS P. COLLIN,

builder and masonry contractor, hails from Kråksmåla, Småland, Sweden, where he was born Jan. 6, 1874. Emigrating in February, 1892, he settled in DeKalb and, after being variously employed for four years, engaged in the building business in 1896. During the eleven years he has been in business for himself he has met with marked success.

Mr. Collin is a member of the Swedish Lutheran Church at De



CLAUS P. COLLIN

Kalb and of the local lodge of the Knights of Pythias.

CHARLES ENG,

foreman at the American Steel and Wire Works, was born March 22, 1869, at Bjerka, Vestergötland, Sweden. He came to this country Feb. 25, 1887, and lived in New York and New Jersey until 1889, then in Braddock and Rankin, Pa., for four years, removing to DeKalb in 1893. In April, 1903, he was elected alderman of the Third ward, but prior to that time the wire manufacturing business, he asserts, had engrossed

him so completely that he had not even found time to get married.

Mr. Eng is a member of the local lodge of the Independent Order of Vikings.



CHARLES ENG



SIMON C. JOHNSON

or of the city and township of DeKalb in 1897. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and of the Modern Woodmen of America.

SIMON C. JOHNSON

is a native of DeKalb county, being born in Milan township May 15, 1866. His education was obtained in the country school. Mr. Johnson is the inventor of several useful articles and appliances, chief among them being a chimney staging, adjustable to any roof and requiring but a few minutes to put in place, and a ladder hanger for the use of painters, carpenters, masons and mechanics. The patents carried by Mr. Johnson are the first to be granted on any similar appliances, according to the patent office. The articles are manufactured on a small scale by the inventor himself.

Mr. Johnson was elected collect-

JOHN F. JOHNSTON

who has been a resident of De Kalb since 1873, was born at Sycamore, this state, April 10, 1870. His father, Christopher Johnston, died in 1871, the same year the family settled in De Kalb co. Having finished public school the son entered the Davenport, (Ia.,) Business College, of which he is a graduate. As a member of the Swedish Lutheran Church he has evinced great activity. A teacher in the Sunday school since 1887, he became its superintendent in 1898. Besides he has served for a long period as leader of the church choir, has been secretary of the church for a number of years, and is a mem-

ber of the board of deacons since 1903. He has served one term as director in the Y. M. C. A. of



JOHN F. JOHNSTON

De Kalb, and is musical director and secretary of the Third Regiment Band. In 1899 he obtained a letter carrier's position which he still holds. He stood highest among sixty applicants in the civil service examination.

He was in 1907 elected treasurer of the Swedish-American Republican League of Illinois at its Rockford convention.

Mr. Johnston has served as recorder of the local observatory of the North Star Benefit Association since 1899. Nov. 16, 1892, he was united in marriage to Hilda S. Bergquist, born March 4, 1874. Their children are: Spener Christopher, born 1893; Paul Rudolph Melanchton, 1895; Anna Margueriite Evangeline, 1897; Genevieve Paulina, 1899; John Martin McKinley, 1901; Rachel Cecilia, 1903, Carl Theodore Immanuel, 1906, and Gustaf Adolphus Frederick, 1907.

ANDREW G. LINDBERG

has owned and cultivated a farm in Afton township since 1891. He came to the United States in 1881 from Eskilstuna, Sweden, where he was born April 23, 1859. In Warren, Pa., he worked for a year at the blacksmith's trade, which he had learned in his native city. From there he came to De Kalb and was employed for four years in the barb wire factories, but his chief ambition was to own a home in the country, so he went to Minnesota and bought 160 acres of land in Murray county.



ANDREW G. LINDBERG

In 1888 he desired to see the mining country of the West and spent two years in Aspen, Breckinridge, Leadville and Colorado Springs. Then he returned to the farming country of Illinois, locat-

ing in this county. After working a year for the C. F. Patten Co. he purchased the farm he now owns.

He has served his county in the capacities of tax collector and member of the school board.

Mr. Lindberg belongs to the Swedish Lutheran Church of De Kalb, which he has served as secretary and as trustee for years.

In 1890 he was married to Helen Anderson of Afton township. They have two sons and three daughters.

SAMUEL PETERSON

was born in Sweden, Oct. 13, 1855, the son of John Peterson, a carpenter, and his wife Maria. The family emigrated in 1869, and the mother died in 1871, followed by her husband in 1892. Having finished his common school education, Samuel Peterson turned to manual labor. After working for some time in the Daly Implement Works at De Kalb he attained a position as foreman which he held for six years. Quitting the factory at twenty-five years of age he embarked in business as a building contractor and has continued in the same line with uniform success up to the present time.

Mr. Peterson is an influential citizen of De Kalb and enjoys the confidence of his townsmen to a high degree. He has served on the board of education for two terms or six years, and as a member of the aldermanic council for four years. In politics he is a Republican, with the great majority of his fellow countrymen, and belongs to the local Swedish Republican Club.



SAMUEL PETERSON

The Swedish Lutheran Church has in him a useful and active adherent, Mr. Peterson having served on the board of trustees for a period of twelve years.

Mr. Peterson has a wife and eight children. His marriage took place Sept. 26, 1883, and the bride was Miss Christine Pearson of Oregon, Ill., a daughter of John and Anna Pearson of that city. The children are: Edna Gertrude, born Aug. 1, 1884; Roy Milton, Oct. 7, 1886; Earl Raymond, Oct. 10, 1889; Irving Leonard, Aug. 4, 1891; Ruth Lucile, July 19, 1894; Anna Marie, Sept. 16, 1897. The family home is at 326 South Sixth street.

E. A. RYBERG

was born April 30, 1871, in Fryeled parish, Småland, Sweden. He

emigrated to Kansas in the spring of 1888, and worked on a farm for over a year. He thence went to Topeka, where he obtained employment in the shoe store of Nystrom Brothers. With this firm he remained seven years. While in Topeka he belonged to the local Swedish Mission Church. After completing the courses at the Chicago Theological Seminary he was ordained to the ministry and took charge of his first pastorate at Bay City, Michigan. In the spring of 1901 he became pastor of the Swedish Mission Church on W. 22nd st., Chicago. Since 1903 Rev. Ryberg has had charge of the Swedish Congregational Church at De Kalb.



E. A. RYBERG



AXEL GARIBALDI SKOGLUND

AXEL G. SKOGLUND

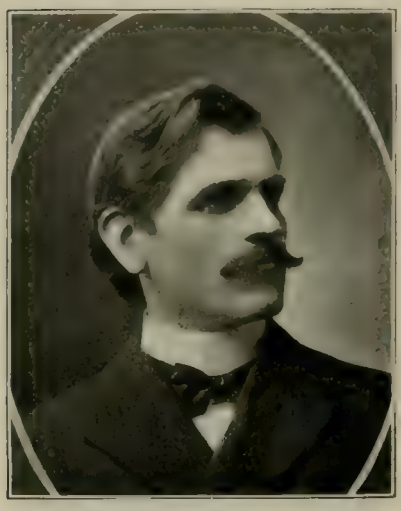
was born at Tossene, Bohus län, Sweden, Oct. 28, 1878. He emigrated to America early in 1899, locating at DeKalb, where he at once obtained employment as a mason tender. In a very short time he learned the mason's trade and established himself as a masonry contractor, in which line of business he has achieved success.

Mr. Skoglund is a Lutheran by faith.

EMIL SKOGLUND,

former pastor of the Swedish Mission Church at DeKalb, was born at Karlskoga, Sweden, Aug. 29, 1872, and was six years old when brought to this country by his parents. He was reared in the city of Chicago and, after reaching mature age, entered North Park College and was graduated from the Covenant's divinity school in 1903. After ordination to the ministry he took charge as pastor of the Swedish Mission Church at DeKalb.

He is now pastor of the Swed-



EMIL SKOGLUND

ish Mission Church at Waverly, Nebraska, having removed in 1907.

NELS J. SMITH,

engaged in farming near Elva Station, in DeKalb county, was



NELS JOHN SMITH

born in Tranemo parish, Elfsborgs län, Sweden, Oct. 10, 1847, and came to America in 1872. With the exception of a period spent in Chicago, he has lived in this county ever since. He has served on the school board of Afton township for a long term of years, and as a trustee of the Swedish Lutheran Church at DeKalb, of which he is one of the oldest members.

May 31, 1877, he was united in marriage at Oak Park, Ill., to Nelly Nelson, who was born in Skåne June 11, 1845, and came to America in 1870. Their union has been blessed with four children, Bert Herbert, deceased, Oscar, David, and Waldo, deceased.

CHARLES J. STONE,

foreman in the wire mill at De Kalb, was born at Brattfors, Verm-



CHARLES J. STONE

land, Sweden, May 9, 1850. Having received a common school education, he went to work at the age of fifteen, learning the trade

of his father, who was employed in the iron and steel works at Brattfors. In 1874 the family removed to Degerfors, Vermland, father and son being employed in the iron works at that place until 1886. Mr. Stone became very proficient in his work, for which he received the highest grade given by the firm, and was often called upon to give practical demonstrations in private to leading iron masters of Sweden.

At thirty Mr. Stone came to the United States. After living a short time in Manistee, Mich., he was employed in the barbed wire mill of the Haish Manufacturing Co. of DeKalb; later he changed to the Superior Barb Wire Co., and again to the Ellwood Nail and Wire Co., now the American Steel and Wire Co.'s mills at De Kalb, where he now holds the position of foreman in the drawing department.

Mr. Stone is a member of the Swedish Mission Church and of the order of Modern Woodmen of America.

AUGUST WILHELM STARK,

pastor of the Swedish Lutheran Church of De Kalb, is a native of Sweden. He was born on the 2nd of Nov., 1854, and is a son of John G. Johnson (deceased) and Martha Christine Stark. The name Johnson being so common among the people of his nationality, he assumed his mothers's name as did also a younger brother.

He grew up a stranger to affluence. As soon as he was old enough to be of any assistance,



AUGUST WILHELM STARK

he was required to lend a hand in gaining a living. He attended public schools from his sixth year until thirteen years of age and from that time until his emigration to the U. S. worked on the railroad. In 1873, he was induced by a brother and sister, who had already come to this country, to cross the Atlantic. Locating at Tidioute, Pa. he performed manual labor for a time. During the winter of 1876–77 he attended the Collegiate Institute of Jamestown, N. Y. After his conversion in 1874 he had a desire to become a minister of the Gospel and in 1878 began preparation for that work. In January of that year he entered Augustana College, where he was graduated in 1883, with the degree of A. B. In 1885 he was graduated from

the Augustana Theological Seminary. While acquiring his education, he largely supported himself by teaching school and preaching. He was ordained in Rockford, Ill., in 1885, having received calls to four different charges, accepting one near Round Rock, Texas.

In 1886 Rev. Stark was called to the pastorate of the Swedish Lutheran Church of Des Moines, Iowa. Here he worked for four and a half years. In the spring of 1891, he accepted a call from De Kalb, Ill., and has been pastor of the Swedish Lutheran Church of that place since then.

During his ministry Rev. Stark has held the following offices: Vice-President of the Illinois Conference of the Augustana Synod, Swedish Corresponding Secretary of the General Council of the Lutheran Church in North America, and is at present President of the Board of Directors of the Orphans' Home of the Illinois Conference.

Rev. Stark has two brothers in the ministry, viz: Rev. F. M. Johnson of Chicago and Rev. G. K. Stark of Evanston.

In Chicago, on the 14th of Jan., 1886, Rev. Stark was united in marriage with Miss Wilhelmina Peterson, born in Chicago, Nov. 5, 1862, the daughter of O. P. and Carrie Peterson, both deceased. They have seven children, Minnie E., Carl F. E., Paul W., Luther N., Esther C., Ebba M. L., and August W., one son having died in infancy.

ANDERS W. ANDERSON,

contractor and builder, was born in Järstad parish, Östergötland,



ANDERS WILHELM ANDERSON

May 26, 1849. He came over from Sweden in 1869, equipped with a common school education and ambition to work. Prior to settling down in Sycamore, he lived in Chicago, Rock Island and Moline for short periods.

He has been a member of the Swedish Lutheran Church here for 35 years, secretary of the church for some 18 years, trustee at various periods from 1875, and deacon since 1898. He served as alderman in Sycamore for two terms and was then chairman of the street and walk committee. Mr. Anderson has been twice married, and had four children with his first wife and five with the second. Both wives are dead, as also the four children of the first marriage and one of the

second. He now lives with the remaining four children.

MAGNUS FRYKMAN,

pastor of the Swedish Lutheran Church at Sycamore, is the son



MAGNUS FRYKMAN

of a farmer of Sunne, Vermland, where he was born Oct. 3, 1844. His father was for many years in public service in connection with the district court. In 1873 the son emigrated to the United States and entered Augustana Theological Seminary, then located in Paxton, completing the course and being ordained to the ministry in the spring of 1875, at a synodical meeting held at Vasa, Minn. He had previously pursued studies at the Ahlberg School at Hvetlanda, aside from attending the common school at Sunne. Since his ordination Rev. Frykman has had pastoral charge in the following places: Chariton, Ia., 1875–80; Marinette, Wis., 1880–83; Republic, Mich., 1883–85; Sycamore, since Dec. 22, 1885.

Rev. Frykman has been one of the most active and useful members of the Augustana clergy. He has served as secretary of the Iowa Conference for two years, of the Illinois Conference for three years, vice-president of the latter conference one year and its president for four years (1895–98). For several years he has been a member of the Synodical Council of the Augustana Synod and of the executive committee of the Illinois Conference, and has besides been called upon to serve on various important committees. He served for a number of years on the board of directors of the Augustana Hospital in Chicago.

Dec. 4, 1884, Rev. Frykman was married at Marinette, Wis., to Miss Amanda Odea Olson, daughter of Emanuel and Gustafva Olson, who are still living there.

FORD COUNTY

OLOF P. BARTELSON

is one of the early Swedish settlers in Ford county, coming here in



OLOF PETER BARTELSON

1868 from Döderhult parish, Småland, where he was born June 17, 1838. Upon his arrival in America he settled in Dix township, where he has resided ever since, with the exception of six years spent in Drummer township. His father, Bartel Olson, born in February, 1806, died in Dix township in 1894 at the high age of eighty-eight, and his mother passed away the same year the family reached America. Bartel Olson was the first Swedish settler in Gibson City. Mr. Bartelson's occupation is that of a farmer. With his family he belongs to the Swedish Lutheran Church of Farmersville, where he has been a trustee for some fifteen years.

Mr. Bartelson was married in 1864 at Hvena parish, Småland, to Carolina Christina Anderson, daughter of Nils Peter Anderson, a farmer at Östra Hult. Mrs. Bartelson died in 1897, leaving her husband and five children, John Emil, Selma Othilia, Hilma Fredoria, Ephraim Teodor, Ernst Arthur Emanuel, three of their children, Amanda Sophia, Victor Edward and Otto Sigfrid, having died before her. John Emil Bartelson was married April 15, 1903, to Othilia Nelson from Gammalstorp parish, Blekinge, Sweden; Selma Othilia Bartelson in 1898 married C. L. Anderson of Champaign county, and Hilma Fredoria Bartelson married Cornell Oleson of Sibley, Ford county, Feb. 14, 1900.

ISAAC O. BLOOM,

grocer, was born in Nässjö, Småland, Sweden, Feb. 19, 1846. Since July, 1867, when he came to this country, he has been living in Ford county, part of the time in Paxton, before locating at Gibson City.

Mr. Bloom has been a trustee of the Gibson City Building and Loan Association for a long term of years, and has also served as a trustee in the local Swedish Lutheran Church, of which he is a member.

His wife, Ida C., née Magnusson, was born at the city of Jön-

köping in 1859. The pair have four children, Hampton T., Selma C., Herbert L. and May E. From



ISAAC OTTO BLOOM

a former marriage there are three children, Theodore J., a druggist in Texas, George H., shoe dealer, and Linda M., stenographer, both in the home city.

OLIN LARSON,

cigar manufacturer, was born in Toarp parish, Skåne, Sweden, March 21, 1846. Equipped with a common school education he emigrated at the age of 22 and then came to Gibson City, where he has since lived.

He is engaged in the manufacture and sale of cigars, with one of his sons, John O., as associate.

Mr. Larson is married to Ellen Aukney, born in Somerset co., Pa., Sept. 14, 1844. The fruits of this union are four children, the other three being George F., Betty L. and Ada E. George Larson is employed by the telephone company in Hammond, Ind., and the daughter, Ada, is the



OLIN LARSON

wife of Mr. Mullholland of Chicago.

Besides his business in the city, Mr. Larson owns a farm near Gibson City.

SWAN PETERSON,

secretary and manager of the Swan Peterson Floral Company, was born in Norra Strö, Skåne, Sweden, Dec. 29, 1860. April 1, 1880, he landed on American soil and made his home in Gibson City, where he has lived ever since.

Mr. Peterson learned horticulture at Åraslöf, Sweden, under one of the most capable gardeners in that part of the country. He started in business for himself as a florist, continuing alone for many years, until the increase of business prompted him in 1900 to

enlarge his establishment. For that purpose he organized the Swan Peterson Floral Company, with $30,000 capital, of which stock he holds one-third. The present value of the plant is about $40,000. He makes a specialty of violet, carnation and rose culture. Mr. Peterson is the originator of several new varieties of carnations. The company's shipments of flowers and plants cover a wide territory. Their greenhouses comprise 100,000 square feet of glass. Mr. Peterson has a beautiful home on the nursery grounds. He is one of the pillars of the Swedish Lutheran church in the city, having served as a deacon for over 20 years and as Sunday school superintendent for a number of years.

Mrs. Peterson, whose maiden name was Sigrid Molin, was born at Vederslöf, Skåne, Feb. 23, 1867. Their children are Frida M., Anna E., Edith P., Esther L., Freddie S., Linda D., and Freddie E., deceased.

FRANS A. SEASTRAND,

Swedish Lutheran clergyman, was born at Sjöamålen, Askeryd parish, Småland, Sweden, March 8, 1867. Having finished common school in his native place, he worked for a time, partly as a carpenter and partly as a farm laborer. When he came over from the old country in 1887 he located at Marathon, Ia. Here he was employed for two years in the real estate office of C. A. Eckman. After another two years Mr. Seastrand entered Augustana College in 1891. He graduated from the college in 1897 and from the theological



FRANS AUGUST SEASTRAND

seminary in 1901, being ordained to the ministry at the synodical meeting in Jamestown, N. Y., that year. While a student, Rev. Seastrand taught parish school and preached in various places in Iowa, Illinois, Minnesota, Michigan and Massachusetts. After his ordination he assumed pastoral charge of the Swedish Lutheran churches at Gibson City and Sibley, Ill. He removed to another field at New London, Minn., in 1906.

May 14, 1903, Rev. Seastrand's marriage to Miss Beda Erickson took place at Laurens, Ia.

PAUL GULLANDER,

minister of the Swedish Lutheran Church and former missionary in South Africa is a man of varied experience whose biography, if

given in detail, would take up much space.

He was born at Gullåckra, Brågarp parish, Skåne, Sweden,



PAUL GULLANDER

June 16, 1863. His father, Nils Ericsson, who was a farmer, died when Paul was six years old. There were five other children, Paul being the youngest. He was educated in the common school and after confirmation went to the nearest city, Lund, and began to study privately, under the tutorship of a student of the Carolinian cathedral school, meanwhile coming in contact with the student body of the old university town and joining the local sharpshooters' association.

At about eighteen he was converted and from that time his desire was to work in the interest of Christianity. He began by circulating religious tracts and by bringing little street-urchins into the Sunday school, then a new thing in Lund, which was looked upon with suspicion by conservative churchmen there.

Despairing of ever being able to obtain the education needed for the ministry, the goal of his ambition, Mr. Gullander at the age of nineteen opened a small shoe store in Lund. The business, however, proved unprofitable, entailing losses which it took him several years to make up.

Several weeks each summer Mr. Gullander—a name adapted from his place of birth—spent as colporteur, or traveling preacher and bookseller, in Western Skåne.

In the fall of 1887 Mr. Gullander emigrated to America, whither two brothers had preceeded him. Coming to Chicago, he stopped with Rev. N. M. Liljegren, a Swedish Methodist clergyman, whom he had known intimately in Sweden. On his recommendation Mr. Gullander was enrolled in the Swedish department of the Chicago Theological Seminary, from which he was graduated in 1891.

Soon after he was given the desired opportunity to go as a missionary to the heathen, being sent to South Africa in the spring of 1892 by the Scandinavian Alliance Mission of Chicago. He was stationed at Peter Maritsburg, Natal, for five months, going from there by ox-cart to Swazieland, where the Alliance Mission established its first station, with Rev. Gullander as secretary.

Soon after his arrival in South Africa, Rev. Gullander was

joined by his betrothed, Augusta Eleonora Hultberg, a graduate nurse of the Queen Sophia Home in Stockholm, and they were united in marriage. Within one year the union was dissolved by her death, June 1, 1893. The following August, Rev. Gullander went to Sweden to leave his motherless child in the care of his dead wife's parents in Engelholm.

From Sweden he went for the second time to the United States, intending to enter the Augustana Theological Seminary at Rock Island to pursue further theological studies. He was graduated and ordained to the ministry in the Augustana Synod in 1896 and accepted a call to Washington Depot, Conn. This seems to have been merely a perfunctory step, for the following November, after less than six months' service we find him on his way to Sweden, intent on a plan to become missionary to the Scandinavians of Johannesburg and the Boer Republic. Through the good offices of influential churchmen there he succeeded in raising by subscription the sum of 6,000 crowns. For the accomplishment of this end he visited many Swedish, Norwegian and Danish bishops, and other influential Scandinavian churchmen, and was also permitted to present his cause at an audience before King Oscar.

Leaving the bulk of the funds in care of Gottfrid Warholm, treasurer of the Lund Mission Society, Rev. Gullander again embarked for South Africa, arriving in Johannesburg March 28, 1898. On Easter Sunday of that year he conducted the first Swedish high mass ever celebrated in Transvaal.

President Kruger himself promised that the Transvaal government would donate real estate for the erection of a Scandinavian Lutheran church, other denominations having been accorded the same generous treatment. But the war with England prevented Kruger from carrying out the promise. Furthermore, the war played havoc with all missionary work in Boer territory. Many of the 1500 odd Scandinavians in Transvaal joined the Boer Army, and the loss of a large percentage of the Scandinavian corps in the battle of Magersfontein struck dismay into the entire Scandinavian colony.

In order to support himself Rev. Gullander for nine months held a position as librarian with the Rose Deep Company, one of the largest gold mining companies in Transvaal, devoting only Sundays to pastoral work. For half a year after the outbreak of the war he was compound manager at the company's mine, his duties consisting in keeping order among the 2,000 native laborers, when not at work in the mine. At one time he had as many as 90 native policemen to assist him in this task.

Feb. 25, 1900, about six months after the outbreak of the war,

Rev. Gullander left Johannesburg for Sweden, going by way of an East African coast line to Suez. From Port Said he made an excursion to the Holy Land, proceeding thence via Gibraltar, Lisbon and Hamburg to Malmö.

After spending the summer in Sweden, Rev. Gullander proceeded to the United States in the early fall. He now entered upon a lecture tour of the Scandinavian settlements, designed to raise money for a church building at Johannesburg, a plan still cherished by him. In furtherance of the same cause Rev. Gullander published and sold 4,000 copies of a pamphlet dealing with mission work in Africa and the Boer War.

The principal literary work of Rev. Gullander is a 264 page volume in Swedish, with additional 80 pages of illustrations, entitled: "Three years in Africa, and Reminiscences of Sweden and of the Holy Land." At present he is engaged in writing another book to be entitled: "The Destinies of a Young Woman."

Nov. 1, 1903, Rev. Gullander took pastoral charge of the Swedish Lutheran Church of Farmersville, near Paxton, Ill.

On June 28, 1905, Rev. Gullander again entered matrimony, his second wife being Esther Elvira, daughter of Dr. E. J. Werner of Rush City, Minn. She is an accomplished singer and musician, who was educated at Gustavus Adolphus College Conservatory and at the time of her marriage held a call to become one of its teachers. A daughter, Aurora Elvira Cecilia, was born to Rev. and Mrs. Gullander in June, 1906. Rev. Gullander's son in the first marriage died in Sweden, aged eight years.

In December, 1907, Rev. Gullander removed to the pastorate at Big Rapids, Michigan.

JOHN F. G. HELMER,

druggist and bookseller, was born at Hjertsbo, Tvered parish, Ves-



JOHN F. G. HELMER

tergötland, Sweden, Nov. 14, 1849, and educated at the Grenna pedagogy and the higher elementary school of Jönköping, 1863–67. In the latter year he came over to America, settling in Paxton, where he has lived ever since. Since 1887, he is the proprietor of a prosperous drug business. Prior to that he worked on various farms in the 60s, then as

clerk for S. D. Cooper, druggist at Paxton. Mr. Helmer is an active member of the Swedish Lutheran Church since 1869 and has served for a number of years as one of the trustees and as treasurer of that board, also as secretary of the congregation. He was clerk of the Paxton Camp of the Modern Woodmen from 1886 to 1902, and is a member of other orders, viz., the Knights of Pythias, Yeoman of America, Odd Fellows and Court of Honor.

In 1876 Mr. Helmer was elected Coroner of Ford county and re-elected two years later. In 1880 he was appointed Deputy Circuit Court Clerk and Recorder, serving nearly four years. In 1884 he was elected Circuit Court Clerk and Recorder and reelected in 1888, serving eight years in all. In later years he has served as vice-president of the Carnegie Library of Paxton. Besides Mr. Helmer has filled sundry minor positions of honor and trust not here mentioned.

June 4, 1879, Mr. Helmer was married to Augusta W. Fredrickson, who was born Oct. 1, 1857, at Skymmelsås, Grenna, Småland. Two children have been born to them, viz., a daughter, Cora Otelia, in 1880, deceased, and a son Ralph Anton, in 1885.

GUSTAF EMIL HEMDAHL was born Jan. 8, 1866, in Skede, Sweden. He came to America in 1880 from his home in Småland, where his father, Anders Peterson, had been superintending an orphans' home. He located at Swede Home, Neb., hired out as



GUSTAF EMIL HEMDAHL

a farm hand and then rented a farm, The years 1886–89 he tried farming in eastern Colorado but the land proving valueless on account of lack of rain he abandoned it. In 1890 he was matriculated as a student at Luther Academy, Wahoo, Neb., and graduated in the spring of 1893. The next fall he entered the freshman class of Augustana College and graduated with the college class of 1897, having spent the school year of 1895–96 at the state University of Nebraska.

At the opening of the school year of 1897–98 he was admitted to Augustana Theological Seminary and graduated from that institution in the spring of 1900, with the degree of B. D. Having received a call from the Swedish Lutheran Church of

Princeton, he was ordained at the annual meetiug of the Augustana Synod at Burlington, Iowa, June 17, 1900. During his pastorate at Princeton, the congregation paid off a $2,700 church debt, raised $4,000 for improvements and increased its list of communicant members by one hundred and fifty.

In July, 1903, he was married to Miss Selma Anderson of Moline, Ill. Miss Anderson was a graduate of Moline High School and Moline Normal School and for six years a teacher in the Moline city schools, also for several years a member of Augustana College Chorus. The family is blessed with a son, Gustaf Reuel.

In 1906 Rev. Hemdahl removed to Paxton, pursuant to a call from the Swedish Lutheran Church of that city. This congregation is now erecting a $30,000 church building.

CHARLES ALBERT LARSON,

engaged in the clothing and furnishing business, was born of Swedish parents in Attica, Ind., Feb. 1, 1859. The family removed to Paxton, where he attended public school, and afterwards was employed in the clothing store opened here by his father, P. Larson. Mr. C. A. Larson is now secretary and treasurer of the P. Larson Company in Paxton and also president of the P. Larson Clothing Company in Gibson City. He is married, his wife, Anna M., being a native of Chicago, where she was born Jan. 5, 1866. They have



CHARLES ALBERT LARSON

three children, named Clarence R. Mabel E. and Grace V. The family belongs to the local Swedish Lutheran Church.

AUGUSTUS J. LAURENCE,

mayor of the city of Paxton, has resided in that city since his emigration in 1869. His father Johan Nilsson, who combined the farmer's occupation with the carpenter's trade, lived in the little town of Grenna, Sweden, where his son, Augustus Laurence, was born Dec. 12, 1849. After his arrival in Paxton he substituted the given name, Laurence, for that of Johnson to avoid confusion. Having reached the age of twenty before coming to America he naturally had enjoyed a common school education in the old country. This was supplemented by

two years of study at Augustana College, then located at Paxton.

In 1875 Mr. Laurence engaged



AUGUSTUS J. LAURENCE

in the dry goods, carpet and shoe business and can now look back upon a successful career of more than a quarter century as one of the leading business men of Paxton.

Having been united in marriage May 28, 1878, to Jennie W. Egnell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. N. G. Egnell of Paxton, Mr. Laurence has a family of four sons and one daughter, viz., Austin Evald, Elmer Theodore, Agnes Ottilia, Victor Emanuel and Albert Fredrick. One daughter is deceased.

Mr. Laurence is a devoted member of the local Swedish Lutheran Church, which he has given many years of service, having been secretary of the congregation for twenty-seven years, of the church council for sixteen years and a member of the board of deacons for twenty-five years.

For a number of years he has been a director of the Young Men's Christian Association of Ford county and was reelected in January, 1907, for three years as a director in the Scandia Life Insurance Company of Chicago. He has served as supervisor of Ford county for ten years. He is a director in the Paxton Chautauqua Association, and a member of the Paxton Club and of the Paxton Retail Association.

In recognition of his sterling citizenship the citizens of Paxton finally conferred upon Mr. Laurence the highest honor within their gift by electing him to the mayoralty. This office he has filled for the past two years.

ERIC P. OLSSON,

minister of the Lutheran Church and for many years pastor of the Swedish Lutheran congregation in Paxton, is a native of the province of Helsingland, where he was born Nov. 24, 1857, at Undersvik. His parents, John Olsson, a farmer, and his wife, Martha Erickson, both died in recent years at Pawnee Rock, Kans.

The family came to America in 1870, living for four years in Pennsylvania before removing to Kansas. After spending about five years on the farm at Pawnee Rock, Eric Peter was sent to school at Rock Island, where he studied during the years 1880–87 at Augustana College and Theological Seminary. Shortly after gradua-

tion in the spring of 1887 he was ordained to the ministry and took charge of a pastorate at Mar-



ERIC PETER OLSSON

quette, Kans. After a year and a half he assumed charge of the church at Paxton, and continued to labor in that historic field from December, 1888, until April, 1906. On a call from the church in Falun, Kans., he now removed there, partly from the necessity of looking after certain important property interests in that locality.

In 1897 the degree of A. M. was conferred upon Rev. Olsson by Bethany College, and in 1901 he received the honorary title of D. D. from Wittenberg College, Springfield, Ohio.

Dr. Olsson has served as president and secretary of the Paxton District of the Illinois Conference of the Augustana Synod. For five years he edited and published *Olive-Bladet*, a local monthly paper in the interest of his church at Paxton. On the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the same church he edited a memorial album, containing the history of the Paxton congregation from 1863 to 1903.

Dr. Olsson was married to Miss Esther Thorstenberg May 18, 1893. Mrs. Olsson is the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. O. H. Thorstenberg, well known to the Swedish settlers of Kansas. She was born at Assaria, Kans., Feb. 8, 1871. The union has been blessed with three sons and three daughters, of whom the following are living: Eric Paul Torsten, born 1894, Carl Birger Samuel and Jarl Helge Sigfrid, twins, 1902, and Edla Agnes Marie, 1904.

N. H. PEARSON

was born at Ousby, Skåne, Sweden, Nov. 4, 1843, and reared in



N. H. PEARSON

that locality. In 1867, as a young man of 24, he came to the United

States, locating at Paxton. A carpenter by trade, he here established himself as a building contractor and, as such, has been the architect of his own fortune. Mr. Pearson has put up many of the principal buildings in Paxton, such as the Rodeen Block, the A. J. Laurence Block, the Buggy Factory Block and the Carnegie Library building, besides many of the finest private residences.

He has served as an alderman for eight years and for many years has been a trustee of his church, the Swedish Lutheran.

ANDREW PETERSON,

born at Strö parish, Skåne, Dec. 7, 1864, came over from Sweden in October, 1881. He has a common school education from the old country and attended public school for some time in this country. He has lived for some time at Gibson City and Chicago, respectively, serving as a trustee and Sunday school superintendent of local Swedish Lutheran churches.

Mr. Peterson is a successful horticulturist, owning a greenhouse worth $8,000 in Paxton and one at Hoopeston, valued at $10,000, the latter being one of the finest in the state. He makes a specialty of carnations and roses, and ships flowers to almost every state in the Union and to Canada. Nine years ago he started in as a florist in a humble way at Paxton, but business increased rapidly, necessitating extensions at home and warranting him, three years later, in building a branch establishment larger than the original plant.

April 11, 1896, at Chicago, Mr. Peterson was married to Mathilda Johnson, born in Kalmar, Sweden, Dec. 7, 1861.

SWEN ANDERSON

is one of the most distinguished citizens of the town of Sibley,



SWEN ANDERSON

where he has held many offices of honor and trust, including those of postmaster and president of the village. He was born in the parish of Felestad, near the city of Lund, Sweden, Jan. 6, 1844. He had a common school education in the old country and studied bookkeeping in Lund for a short time. At twenty he came to this country, spending two years in Champaign county, Ill., and one year in Iowa, subsequently settling in Sibley, where he has lived since 1868 and been a dealer in lumber and coal for over twenty years.

Among the other offices he has filled, besides those named above, are the following: school treasurer for 20 years, justice of the peace for 18 years, supervisor, town clerk, assessor, collector, commissioner of highways and village trustee and treasurer. He has been the Ford county member of the Republican State Central Committee for 16 years. In politics he is a Republican and one of the leaders in Ford county.

He helped to organize and has been secretary of the Swedish Lutheran Church since its organization in 1879 and superintendent of its Sunday school for more than twelve years.

Mr. Anderson was united in marriage to Miss Lotta Swenson of Fairbury, Ill., on Christmas day, 1873. To them seven children have been born, five of whom are dead. The living are: Carrie C., and James L., of whom the latter has been educated at Augustana College.

LOUIS T. LARSON,

a prosperous farmer of Sibley, came over from Sweden in 1869 and located first at Gibson City. He was born Nov. 22, 1848, at Broby, Skåne. He is an active member of the Swedish Lutheran Church at Sibley, having served for many years as a deacon and assistant superintendent of the Sunday school.

He was married at Gibson City in 1880 to Anna Mathilda Nelson from Strö, Skåne. To them ten children have been born, viz., Alfred Theodor, John Arthur, Joseph Lawrence, Anton Leonard, Tyra Elvira, Anna Malinda, Alice Alfrida, living, and Julius, Amos and Mertha, dead.



LOUIS T. LARSON

Mr. Larson's parents were Truls and Nilla Larsson, farmer folk of Broby, and his mother, who is past eighty, is now living with her son on the farm at Sibley.

PETER PEARSON,

farmer, and one of the early settlers here, came over to this country in 1870 as a young man of twenty and located at Sibley from the first. He was born at Näflinge, Skåne, Feb. 27, 1850, and received his schooling in that locality.

Mr. Pearson was one of the founders of the Swedish Lutheran Church at Sibley in 1879. The congregation has 81 communicant members and church property

valued at $2,000. Mr. Pearson has served it as a trustee for a long term of years.

He is married to Elna Olson, born in Åhus parish, Skåne, Feb. 27, 1857. Of seven children born to them, the living are: Fanny Elida, Edgar Lawrence, Emily Dorothy, James Walter and Lillian Virginia; the dead, Alice Nora and Edna Viola.

The father of Mrs. Pearson came over in 1862, located in Chicago, removed to Paxton and lived in Ford county until 1880, then removed to Winthrop, Minn., where he is a well-to-do farmer.



PETER PEARSON

Warren, Mercer, Whiteside, Peoria and Marshall Counties

MONMOUTH ALEDO NEW WINDSOR SHERRARD PROPHETSTOWN PEORIA—WENONA

AUGUST JOHNSON,

minister of the Augustana Synod and for twenty years pastor of



AUGUST JOHNSON

the Swedish Lutheran Church of Monmouth, was born March 15, 1856, in the early Swedish colony of Andover, Ill., where his parents, Anders Johnson and his wife, Stina Greta Monsson, were living on a farm. Both parents are now dead, the father having passed away at Orion, Ill., in 1892 and the mother at Monmouth in 1900. The son, August, was educated at Augustana College and Theological Seminary, Rock Island. Just after graduating from the seminary in the spring of 1884 he was ordained to the ministry at a meeting of the Augustana Synod held in the place of his birth. Having accepted a call to become assistant pastor in Andover, he labored in that capacity for three years. In obedience to a call from the Monmouth Swedish Lutheran Church, he came there in 1887, remaining until 1907, when he removed to La Porte, Ind. The Swedish Lutheran Church at that place celebrated its Jubilee in 1907, issuing an illustrated album of which Rev. Johnson was the editor.

In the affairs of the Illinois Conference and of the Augustana Synod Rev. Johnson has constantly evinced great interest and earnest activity. This was recognized in 1907 by his election as vice-president of the Illinois Conference.

June 3, 1886, Rev. Johnson was married at Altona, Ill., to Miss Hannah Larson, born Dec. 30, 1858, the daughter of Peter Larson and his wife Hannah, née Hawkinson. Rev. and Mrs. Johnson are the parents of three children, Anna Eveline, born 1887, August Herman, 1890, and Lillian Henrietta, 1893.

OSCAR E. CARLSTRÖM,

attorney at law, was born at New Boston, Ill., July 16, 1878. He

is a graduate of the Northern Illinois College of Law at Dixon, Ill., and began law practice at Aledo



OSCAR E. CARLSTRÖM

just after being admitted to the bar in February, 1903.

Aug. 26, 1899, he enlisted for military service in the Philippine Islands, and served in the 39th U. S. V. Inf. until May 6, 1901, when his regiment was mustered out, making fifteen months of service in the Philippines. In the service he advanced to the grade of corporal.

His father, Charles A. Carlström, came to America from Östergötland, Sweden, in 1869, Mrs. Clara Carlström following in 1870.

Mr. Carlström is the junior member of the law firm of Bassett & Carlström, and is the only Swedish lawyer in Mercer county and for many miles outside its boundaries.

The family are members of the First Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Carlström is affiliated with the A. F. and A. Masonic lodge and the Modern Woodmen.

On Dec. 30, 1903, Attorney Carlström was married to Miss Alma Christine Nissen at Grand Meadow, Minn. Mrs. Carlström's father is a native of Denmark and her mother, of Norway. She is a graduate of the Conservatory of Music at Dixon, Ill. They have a son, Charles Henry, born in 1905.

ALGOT T. LUNDHOLM

was born in Svarttorp, Näshult parish, Sweden, March 21, 1875, and emigrated together with the family in 1884, locating at Win-



ALGOT THEODORE LUNDHOLM

throp, Minn. He attended Gustavus Adolphus College, at St. Peter, Minn., and was graduated with the class of '99, with the degree of A. B.. Subsequently he pursued divinity studies at

Augustana Theological Seminary, being graduated in 1902 with the degree of B. D. Upon ordination he assumed charge of the Swedish Lutheran congregation of Aledo. In 1906 he removed to St. James, Minn., pursuant to a call from the Swedish Lutheran Church at St. James, Minn.

Rev. Lundholm was married Oct. 29, 1902, to Lydia Maria, daughter of John Olson of Minneapolis, born Jan. 11, 1882, at Nedre Ullerud, Vermland, Sweden. The wedding was celebrated at Winthrop, Minn., where Rev. Lundholm's parents are farmers.

JOHAN G. LINDORFF,

who has been in the hardware business in New Windsor ever since 1872, was born in Långasjö, Småland, Sweden, Oct. 20, 1842. At the age of eighteen he lost his father, Jonas Lindorff, who was a farmer and a selfmade medical practitioner in the country roundabout. The son attended common school at home and later went to Visby, Gotland, where he took a course in a normal school. Aged seventeen, he left home to learn the trade of tinner and copper and sheetiron worker. It was from 1866 to 1868, when he left for America, that Mr. Lindorff lived in Visby. Landing in New York, he was employed in a factory in that city for one year. Proceeding westward, he worked in Chicago for a few months, then lived for a time in Altona before finally locating in New Windsor.

In 1872 he bought out the hardware store of Mr. Olof Frenal. Three years later his brother, Elias Lindorff, joined him as a partner,



JOHAN GUSTAF LINDORFF

and the business was conducted under the firm name of Lindorff Bros. for seventeen years, or until 1892, when the junior partner retired, leaving J. G. Lindorff as sole proprietor. He is still in the business, with a fine stock of hardware, stoves and tinware, and is one of the prosperous merchants of the town.

Mr. Lindorff has served three terms in the aldermanic council, and in 1887 was elected township collector of taxes.

The Lindorff family are all connected with the Swedish Lutheran Church of New Windsor, to which Mr. Lindorff has ever contributed liberally of his time, labor and substance. He is at present chairman of its board of trustees.

Dec. 9, 1871, he was married to Maria Lovisa Wahlberg, who was

born at St. Anna, Östergötland, Dec. 28, 1844, and emigrated in 1870. Their children now living are: O. W. Lindorff, born 1873, doctor of medicine, graduated at Rush Medical College; Blanche A., born 1875, professional nurse, graduated at the Augustana Hospital training school; Esther Ottilia, born 1878, now Mrs. A. W. Anderson; Arthur L., born 1884. They also adopted and raised Tinie Swanson, a cousin of their own children, now Mrs. C. H. Piele.

CHARLES A. SAMUELSON

was born in Haddorp, Sweden, Nov. 18, 1856. He emigrated to this country at the age of 14 and came direct to his brother, Jonas Samuelson, who owned and worked a coal mine near New Windsor, Ill. After four years in the employ of his brother, he bought the coal mine and continued to operate it for a period of three years, when he sold out and engaged in farming. In 1881 he bought a farm near where Sherrard is now located and began farming and stock raising. In 1894, when the coal mines were opened up at Sherrard and the Rock Island & Mercer County Railroad built a branch in there, Mr. Samuelson quit farming and began dealing in lumber, hardware, grain and implements, in which business he is still engaged.

He has served his school district as a trustee for ten years, and has been road commissioner and treasurer of Richland Grove township for twelve years. In 1898 he was elected to the state legislature from the 35th district, com-



CHARLES A. SAMUELSON

prising Mercer, Warren, Henderson and Knox counties, and reelected in 1900. In 1902 he was again elected to the legislature from the new 33d district, comprising Mercer, Henry and Rock Island counties. As such representative he has served his constituents with credit to himself. During the session in 1903 he was appointed by Governor Yates as one of the committee to deliver the five thousand dollars donated by the state of Illinois to the sufferers of Northern Sweden and Finland. He has taken an active part in organizing and maintaining the Swedish-American Republican State League of Illinois, and was its vice-president in 1901. He is a member of the Swedish Lutheran Church of Swedona and has served the church both as a deacon and

a trustee. He is also a member and one of the directors of the North Star Benefit Association of Moline, Ill., and of the M. W. A. and the K. of P.

Elected mayor of Sherrard in 1905, he was reelected in 1907.

Feb. 27, 1879, he was married to Emma M. Lawson of Swedona, Mercer county. This union has been blessed with six children, of whom only two are now living, Florence and Chester.

A. EDGREN

was born Jan. 3, 1844, in Nedra Ulleryd, Vermland, Sweden. He



A. EDGREN

emigrated to this country in 1870, and was enrolled at Augustana College and Theological Seminary at Paxton. Rev. Edgren was ordained June 29, 1873, in Paxton, and has served the Swedish Lutheran congregations in Aurora, Ill., Ishpeming, Mich., Paxton, Evanston, Summerdale in Chicago, Ophiem and Prophetstown, Ill.

CHARLES VICTOR ENGSTRÖM

was born in Mönsterås parish, Småland, Sweden, Nov. 10, 1854. He was fifteen years old when he came to this country. His first home here was in Galesburg, from which city he, like a number of other Swedish settlers, removed later to Peoria. Here he is now established in business as a dealer in leather and shoe findings.

Mr. Engström belongs to the orders of Odd Fellows, Masons and Modern Woodmen, and is the treasurer of the Deaconess Home and Hospital Association.

Mr. and Mrs. Engström, who were married in Chicago Dec. 31, 1879, have four children, Ella V., Roy V., Charles L. and Bessie L. Engström.

AXEL E. ELMQUIST,

pastor of the Swedish Mission Church of Peoria, was born in Elmhult, Småland, Sweden, March 17, 1879. His parents, August and Hedvig Anderson, were farmer folk in the parish of Jersnäs. At twenty-two years of age he emigrated in 1901, going to Brockton, Mass., where he availed himself of the instruction in the Brockton evening school. A year later he entered North Park College and in three years fitted himself for the ministry in the Swedish Mission Church, taking the full course in the theological department. While a student he devoted his vacations to pastoral work in Terre Haute, Ind., Cromwell, Ct., and Marshalltown, Ia. Since his ordination to

the ministry in the Swedish Evangelical Mission Covenant in June, 1905, he has served the church in Peoria.



AXEL ELIAS ELMQUIST

Rev. Elmquist is a frequent contributor to the Swedish-American press and possesses a graceful literary style and a facile pen. A May-festival address delivered by him at North Park College May 1, 1905, was reproduced and commended by a number of papers here and in the old country.

Nov. 30, 1906, Rev. Elmquist entered matrimony. His bride was Miss Edith Seaholm of Springfield, Mass., born July 15, 1886. A brother of Rev. Elmquist, Arvid G., is pursuing art studies at the Bradley Polytechnic Institute of Peoria, and a sister, Agda C., is a professional nurse.

CARL J. JOHNSON,

pastor of the Swedish Lutheran Church, was born in the city of Oskarshamn, Sweden, Dec. 9, 1868. Emigrating in 1882, he came to Lindsborg, Kans. At Bethany College in that city he took up studies, graduating from the commercial department in 1890 and from college in 1896. At Augustana Theological Seminary he fitted himself for the ministry and was ordained at the synodical meeting in Burlington, Iowa, in the early summer of 1900, subsequently taking charge of the Swedish Lutheran congregation in Bloomington, which he served until the spring of 1907, when he became pastor of the Swedish Lutheran Church of Peoria.

Oct. 10, 1900, Rev. Johnson was united in wedlock to Anna



CARL J. JOHNSON

A. Rolander of McPherson, Kans., who was born there Jan. 8, 1875. They have a daughter, Edna.

AXEL J. G. NYSTRÖM

was born in the city of Oskarshamn, Sweden, July 25, 1877.



AXEL J. G. NYSTRÖM

He is the son of Building Contractor Carl Johan Nyström of Peoria and follows the same vocation. With his parents he came to the United States in 1881, growing up and obtaining his education in the public schools of Galesburg and Peoria.

He is a member and steward of the Swedish M. E. Church and has been active in the Epworth League both privately and in an official capacity.

CARL JOHAN NYSTRÖM,

who is a building contractor, having operated for a number of years in the city of Peoria, is a native of Döderhult parish, Småland, Sweden, where he was born Nov. 22, 1849. In July, 1881, he came over from the old country, locating first in Galesburg and finally settling permanently in Peoria.

He is devoted to the Methodist



CARL JOHAN NYSTRÖM

faith and belongs to the local Swedish M. E. Church. In the service of this church his activities are varied including trusteeship, class leadership and superintendency of the Sunday school.

He is married to Susanna Nelson, also of Döderhult parish. Their children are, Carl Oscar Frithiof, Axel J. G., Ella Eugenie, Conrad Fredrick, Esther Susanna and Irene, two of whom are deceased.

OSCAR C. F. NYSTRÖM

was born in Oskarshamn, Sweden, Oct. 20, 1875. With his father, Carl Johan Nyström, and his family, he came to the United States in July, 1881. After attending the public school he finished his education at Hedding College, Abingdon, Ill. Like his

father and a brother, he is a building contractor.

Mr. Nyström is a member of the Grace Methodist Episcopal Church, giving much of his time to the furtherance of its work. He has served it in various capacities, as president of the Epworth League, superintendent of the Sunday school and steward of the church.



OSCAR CARL FRITHIOF NYSTRÖM



CHARLES OLSON

CHARLES OLSON

was born March 26, 1870, in Sjörup parish, Skåne, Sweden. He left his parental home in 1898, coming to Peoria in April. Having attended public school and obtained other necessary training, he went into the railway service and now holds a position as locomotive engineer.

Mr. Olson is a member of the Swedish Lutheran Church at Peoria and of the Locomotive Engineers' Association. In his church he has been elected to the council as a deacon.

His parents, Ola Olson and Elna Nilson, remained in Sweden, where his mother died at the old homestead in June, 1903.

DAVID H. TINGWALL

was born Sept. 7, 1871, at Ingatorp, Småland, Sweden, whence he emigrated in 1893, settling in Peoria. He obtained his education in the Swedish common school and with previous training in handicraft, established himself in this city as a cabinetmaker.

Mr. Tingwall is married to Annie Newman and they have two children, Reinhold and Judith. His parents, Pehr and Lovisa Tingwall are still living at Inga-

torp, where his father is a village storekeeper.

The Tingwall family are members of the Swedish Lutheran Church.



DAVID H. TINGWALL

GUSTAF ERIKSON,

minister of the Augustana Synod of the Lutheran Church, was born on the farm of his father, at Tolsbo, Stora Tuna, Dalarne, Sweden, June 12, 1867. His parents, Erik Hanson and Anna Janson, both died there a few years ago. In his native place he attended the primary and people's schools. Emigrating in 1888, he stopped for three months at Negaunee, Mich., working in a saw-mill and then located at Republic, remaining there until the fall of 1890. While there he worked in the mines, spending his leisure time in private study under the tutorship of A. Forsberg, a mining engineer. At the opening of the school year in 1890 he matriculated at Augustana College. In the fall of 1894 he was enrolled in the Augustana Theological



GUSTAF ERIKSON

Seminary, graduating in 1897 and being ordained to the ministry in the Augustana Synod the same spring. His first pastoral charge after ordination was the Bethany Swedish Lutheran Church of Wenona, which he still serves, together with the Zion Church of Streator.

Rev. Erikson is the editor of *Betania-Hemmet*, a monthly local church paper, his literary activities, however, have not been confined within this narrow compass. While a student, he evinced ability as a poet, which has been cultivated since, resulting in a large number of poems, mainly religious. In 1906 he published a book entitled "Minnen och Bilder från Hembygden."

Rev. Erikson was united in marriage April 27, 1898, with Miss Marie Ede, daughter of Hokan and Anna Ede of Moline, Ill., born Jan. 14, 1866. Mrs. Erikson died Sept. 8, 1907.

Grundy, La Salle, Livingstone, McLean and Vermilion Counties

MORRIS LELAND STREATOR--PONTIAC STRAWN BLOOMINGTON HOOPESTON- RANKIN

JONAS O. BACKLUND,

minister of the Swedish Baptist Church, was born in Sörbygden,



JONAS O. BACKLUND

province of Jämtland, Sweden, Sept. 23, 1875. His parents, Anders Backlund aud Brita Catarina Person, who were farmers in that locality are still living. The son emigrated at the age of eighteen, lived at Rush Point, Minn., studied at Carlton College, and then entered the Swedish Academy and Theological Seminary at Morgan Park, Ill., a branch of the University of Chicago, graduating from that institution in 1905, with the bachelor's degree. Twice he received honorable mention as a student and was elected to the Phi Beta Kappa society of the university. While studying theology at the Swedish divinity school at Morgan Park, Mr. Backlund had pastoral charges at Republic, Mich., White Rock and Red Wing, Minn., and Morris and Evanston, Ill. He has served temporarily as editor of *Baneret*, and is at present instructor in Greek and Latin in Bethel Academy, at Minneapolis. Mr. Backlund's literary ability is shown in contributions to *Hemmets Vän* and other publications.

FRITZ CHARLES NOËL,

editor and part owner of the Leland *Times*, is a native of Stockholm, where his father, Fredrik Adolf Noel, was a manufacturer. The younger Noël was born May 11, 1867, and educated at the Hernösand Seminary, at the elementary school at Ladugårdslandet in Stockholm and at the City of London College.

In 1888 he emigrated, going to Montreal, Canada, where he remained for three years, and began his journalistic career with the Montreal *Herald*. Ten years were next spent in Chicago in the service of the Chicago *Tribune*. Five years ago he removed to Leland and became interested in the local newspaper, the *Times*, the editorship of which he has since as-

sumed. Besides his interest in this paper, he is a member of the Leland Publishing Company, publishers of art calendars for the trade.

Mr. Noel has not held political office, but is active in local political affairs, and that his opinion carries weight may be inferred from the fact that he has been called in as advising member of the County Central Committee.

He is a Lutheran and a member of the Bethany Church, together with his family, consisting of his wife, Martha Audrine, née Klove, whom he married Sept. 18, 1895, and two children, Gladys Josephine, born 1898, and Fredrik Andrew, born 1906.

ALGOT CARLSON,

who conducts a grocery and meat market at Streator, was born in Långemåla parish, Småland, Sweden, Feb. 2, 1851. Twenty years later he came to the United States and lived for some five years in Jamestown before locating permanently here. He has now resided here continuously for thirty years and has been a merchant for twenty-five years. He has been repeatedly elected president of the Scandia Club of Streator, is a prominent member of the local lodge of Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias and Maccabees. Confessionally he is a Methodist, belonging to the First American M. E. Church of Streator. Mr. Carlson's parents, Carl Magnus and Lena Kajsa Pehrson, are farmerfolk at Långemåla. Mrs. Carlson is a daughter of John Samuels of Streator, and was born in this city, Nov. 10, 1863. The couple were married



ALGOT CARLSON

Nov. 15, 1879. Mrs. Carlson died April 3, 1903. The following six children have been born to them, viz., Carl A., John E., Oscar A., Linda J., Alma A. and Arthur W., the last named being dead.

HERBERT JULIUS JOHNSON

was born on the farm of his father, Swan P. Johnson, in Lynn township, Henry county, Ill., April 18, 1871. He spent the first twenty years on the farm, attending public school at intervals. His father died at his home near Andover, in 1889, and shortly after that the son entered Augustana College, at Rock Island, where he finished his education. While at college, he took an active part in literary societies, debating clubs and in athletics.

For two years he was a member of the Augustana football eleven.

Mr. Johnson is an ardent Republican, who has shown political



HERBERT JULIUS JOHNSON

activity both locally and in the state at large. For two terms he served on the Henry county central committee. In 1895 he was chosen first assistant enrolling and engrossing clerk of the Illinois state senate. For two years he was appointed assistant anti-trust clerk under the secretary of state.

He was one of the organizers of the Swedish-American Republican League of Illinois and was elected its president in 1905, serving one year. In 1903 he was elected assistant secretary of the state senate.

In the gubernational campaign of 1904 Mr. Johnson, as one of Roy O. West's aids, was actively engaged in promoting Deneen's candidacy. The following year he was appointed to his present position of chief clerk of the State Reformatory at Pontiac.

As a student and in subsequent years Mr. Johnson lent substantial aid to the work of the Augustana University Association for a greater Augustana, contributing liberally to the cause. From 1893 to 1897 he was financially interested in the Swedish weekly newspaper, *Nya Pressen*, of Moline, removed to Chicago early in 1896 and merged with Fosterlandet, another Swedish weekly, at the end of that year.

On April 30, 1896, Mr. Johnson was married to Miss Anna M. Bengston, born Jan. 29, 1870, the daughter of Gustus and Louisa Bengston of Cambridge, Ill. There are two children, a son, Paul Oliver, born in 1897, and a daughter, Gladys Marian, born in 1902.

AUGUST LARSON

was born at Grimeton, Halland, Sweden, Dec. 27, 1866. When he came to the United States in December, 1883, he worked for some time as a coal miner in West Newton, Pa., afterward working on a farm in Indiana until he went to farming on his own account at Strawn.

He belongs to the Swedish Lutheran congregation at Sibley and has served as a deacon of the church for a number of years. He is a member of several lodges, such as the Modern Woodmen, the Royal Neighbors and the American Home Circle.

His wife, Anna Elida Carlson,

was born Dec. 15, 1864, in Småland. Their children are: Elmer Gottfrid, Emma Linnea and Ellen



AUGUST LARSON

Augusta; in a previous marriage Mr. Larson had five children, viz.: Axel Julius, Carl Hilding Elis, Oscar Wilhelm, Arthur Sigfrid and Roy Bernhard. The eldest son, Axel Julius, was married May 14, 1902, to Tina Larson of Chicago and is employed in that city.

JOHN BYQVIST,

who is a carpenter contractor by trade, was born and reared in Stenstorp, Vestergötland, Sweden, the date of his birth being July 28, 1858. In 1880 he emigrated to St. Louis, Mo., and later located in Bloomington. He belongs to the Swedish Lutheran Church and has served for some time as secretary of the local congregation. He is also a member of the Scandia Aid Society of Bloomington and of the Modern Woodmen of America.

With his wife, Hulda Larson, born Aug. 30, 1859, he has four



JOHN BYQVIST

children: Helena Alfrida, Robert Edmond, Martin Rudolph, and Ellen Monica Cecilia.

CHARLES W. ELFSTRAND,

who has been a letter carrier in the Bloomington postal service for thirteen years, is a native of Sundborn, Dalarne, Sweden, where he was born Feb. 2, 1855.

June 24, 1869, he came to America, and after living for some time in Kewanee, where he obtained his schooling, came to Bloomington, where he has been a resident the greater part of the time since 1873. At first he received employment with the McLean County Coal Company. Later he went to Nebraska with the intention of locating there as a farmer, but the lonely prairies at that time

had no charms for him, so he came back to Bloomington and became a grocery salesman. In



CHARLES W. ELFSTRAND

1893 he was appointed letter carrier for the city.

Mr. Elfstrand is a member of the Scandia Benevolent Society of Bloomington and of the Yeomen of America.

He is married to Josephina Anderson of Cambridge, born in Sweden Dec. 19, 1859, and they have four grown up children, Elmer William, Herbert Grant, Florence Selma Victoria and Ida Josephine.

ALEXANDER G. ERICKSON, grocer and dealer in meats, is one of the prominent citizens of Bloomington. He was born in Målilla parish, Kalmar län, Sweden, July 7, 1863. The family emigrated in 1869, locating at Kewanee and living there for some time before removing to Bloomington. Mr. Erickson acquired his schooling in both places. He was a mail carrier in Bloomington for four years during Harrison's presidential term. The office of president of the Coal Miners' Union was also filled by him. He has served his city in the capacity of alderman from the 7th ward, being elected and reelected on the Republican ticket. On Aug. 21, 1906, he was at a special council meeting elected mayor, to fill out the unexpired term of James S. Neville, deceased.

Mr. Erickson is a member of the Swedish Lutheran Church, and of the following fraternal and industrial organizations: Modern Woodmen, Improved Order of Red



MR. AND MRS. ALEX. G. ERICKSON

Men, K. of P., A. O. U. W., N. U., Butchers' Union and the Scandia Benevolent Society. He takes a leading part in politics in his home city.

He was married in his home city Aug. 30, 1884, to Maria C.

Ståhlberg, born Jan. 27, 1863, at Sandviken, Sweden. Their children are ten in number, as follows: Elvira C., Edward G., Delia M., Grace A., Lilly T., William A., Roy W., Edna L., Carl Theodor, who is dead, and Lawrence A.

ANDREW FREEDLUND

was born in the city of Grenna, in Småland, Sweden, Aug. 24, 1859, and emigrated at the age of twenty-four, settling first at Gibson City and then at Bloomington. Having received his schooling in the old country, he engaged in the carpenter's trade here and soon established himself as a building contractor. That he is skilled in his line and capable of handling large contracts is evidenced by the city's $20,000 fire station, which was built by Mr. Freedlund.

He is a member of the Modern Woodmen's fraternity.

Mr. Freedlund is married to Christina Johnson, born at Grenna Feb. 3, 1860. The couple have eight children, John Alfred, Charles, Emelie, Arthur, Fanny, Thomas, Bettie and Annie.

GUSTAF J. PETERSON

hails from Grenna, Småland, Sweden. He emigrated to America in 1880, living for some time at Paxton, before he made his home in Bloomington, where he has been in the employ of the Chicago and Alton Railway Company for nearly 25 years. He now holds the position of foreman of carpenters. He is of the Lutheran faith and has served a number of years as trustee and treasurer



GUSTAF J. PETERSON

of the local Swedish Church. He is also a member of the order of Modern Woodmen.

Mr. Peterson was born in Grenna, Nov. 27, 1857. He married Miss Lottie Anderson, born at the same place Dec. 24, 1859, and the couple have two children, Albert Wilhelm and Berenice Josephine.

JOHAN OSCAR TORNBLAD

was born in Stockholm, Sept. 16, 1859, attended the public schools there, was later employed in the bank note printing office of the Swedish riksbank. He left Sweden in 1881, and came to Streator where he lived for five years before removing to Bloomington. In Streator he married Anna Maria Ohman, also from Stockholm, in 1882, and a son, Oscar

Birger, was born to them the following year. The family removed to Bloomington in 1886,



JOHAN OSCAR TORNBLAD

where a daughter, Alfhild Teresia, was born three years years later.

Mr. Tornblad is a carpet salesman by occupation. He is an active member of the Swedish Methodist Episcopal Church and a member of its board of trustees. For some fifteen years past he has been superintendent of its Sunday school.

LARS PETER WALLBERG

was born in Renneslöf parish' Halland, March 30, 1843, whence he emigrated to Bloomington in 1880. He enjoyed a common school education in his native country. He established himself in the mercantile business in Bloomington and is at present the proprietor of a grocery and meat market.

His wife, Karin Wallberg, née Grönquist, was born March 13, 1854, at Ockelbo, Gestrikland, Sweden. They have two children, Grace and Florence, born in Bloomington. The family are members of the Swedish Lutheran Church.

CHARLES A. ERICKSON

was born near Paxton, Ill., Dec. 8, 1873. In February, 1889 he went from Paxton to Chicago and worked for the next three years as a grocery salesman for Theodore Freeman. After taking a course in Bryant & Stratton's Business College, he became a bill clerk for Bell, Conrad & Co. and afterward cashier for the Decker



CHARLES A. ERICKSON

& Unrath Packing Co. Being thus employed for three years, he then engaged in the gentlemen's furnishing business on East Division st. in 1897, under the partnership name of Erickson & Swanson. In the spring of 1898 Mr

Erickson removed to Hoopeston and opened another men's clothing and furnishing store under the same firm name.

He is a member of the Ben Hur fraternity and of the Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Erickson was married in Chicago June 5, 1900, to Miss Anna E. Norbeck of that city.

CHARLES A. PETERSON

was born in the province of Östergötland, Sweden, Jan. 6, 1860.



CHARLES AXEL PETERSON

Coming to this country in 1880 he located first in Chicago, then at Kankakee and finally at Hoopeston. For three years from 1881 he was employed by the North-Western Horse Nail Co. of Chicago, and subsequently by the Superior Horse Nail Co. of Kankakee, remaining with the establishment after it became the property of the Hoopeston Horse Nail Co. in 1897 and up to the present time. Mr. Peterson is now foreman of the factory.

He was married in Chicago May 31, 1890, to Miss Hulda Johnson, who was born in Småland, July 1, 1866, and came with her parents to this country in 1870. The children are four in number: Charlotta, born 1891, Raymond, 1893, Carl, 1895, and Violet, 1901.

The family belongs to the First Presbyterian Church of Hoopeston.

PETER N. SWANSON

was born in Hultsjö parish, Småland, Sweden, Jan. 6, 1866. In May, 1883, he came over from Sweden, going to Nalina, Mich., where he went to work for a lumber company, being employed in their sawmill, hotel and store up to 1887. That year he came out



PETER N. SWANSON

of the woods to Chicago and was employed by Henry W. King & Co., a wholesale clothing house, for some four years. In the fall

of 1891 he removed to Hartington, Neb., where he opened a retail clothing store. Selling out the business in 1896 he moved back to Chicago. In the spring of 1898 he again left the city and moved to Hoopeston, opening a men's clothing store with Charles A. Erickson, with whom he had been associated in the same line of business in Chicago.

Mr. Swanson is a member of the Presbyterian Church and of the orders of I. O. O. F., M. W. A. and Ben Hur.

In the spring of 1892 he was married to Miss Tillie Erickson of Chicago.

A. G. HAMMARSTRAND

was born in Edsvara, Skaraborgs län, Sweden, April 7, 1857. His



ANDREW GUSTAF HAMMARSTRAND

parents, now dead, were Anders Hammarstrand and Inga Svensson. The son had very little schooling, being compelled by poor circumstances to begin earning his own living in early boyhood. When he reached maturity young Hammarstrand emigrated and came directly to Rankin. After working as a farm hand for three years, near East Lynne, in the same county, he rented a farm and continued as a renter until 1895, when he purchased 160 acres of land near Rankin. Ten years later he added another 80 acre tract to the farm, which is a most valuable one.

March 23, 1880, just before departing from the old country Mr. Hammarstrand wedded Maria Christina Solberg of Qvänum, born July 27, 1851. Seven children have been born to them, as follows, Frank Gustaf Leonard, 1881, John Richard Claude, 1885, Anna Matilda, 1886, Ellen Charlotta, 1888, Harry Wilhelm, 1890, Nettie Alfrida, 1892, Laura Esther Alida, 1896. The eldest son, Frank, after studying in the commercial and collegiate departments at Augustana College, is now preparing for the medical profession, while all the other children remain on the farm.

For more than twenty-five years Mr. Hammarstrand has been a member of the Swedish Lutheran Church and has held the offices of deacon, secretary of the congregation and superintendent of the Sunday school, each for a term of years.

PETER PEARSON

was born at Norra Ströö, Skåne, Sweden, Nov. 5, 1856. In 1880 he came to the United States and

took up his residence in Gibson City, living there for the next eleven years. He was a church



PETER PEARSON

deacon and superintendent of the Sunday school for many years prior to 1892, when he began to prepare for entering the ministry. Beginning his studies in 1893 at the English Lutheran Seminary in Chicago, he continued at Martin Luther College in the same city. Having finished the courses offered he entered Augustana Theological Seminary at Rock Island. He was ordained at the synodical meeting in Burlington June 17, 1900, having accepted a call from the congregation at Rankin and Clarence, Ill. Rev. Pearson labored at these places with telling results. During his incumbency a parsonage has been built and a church edifice erected in each place.

Of the six brothers of Rev. Pearson, Swan Peterson is engaged in the floral business at Gibson City and Andrew Peterson at Hoopeston, while a third brother is a farmer at Rankin.

Rev. Pearson was married Sept. 29, 1888, at Chicago to Emma Christina Nelson from Stafnäs, Vermland. Their children are: Mertie Marie, born 1889; Ruth Laura, 1891; Carl Joseph Laurentius, 1893, deceased; Hanna Josefine Olivia, 1895; Paul Rufus Elmer, 1897; May Anna Elizabeth, 1900; Carl Einar Samuel, 1903.

McHENRY, LAKE and WILL COUNTIES

AUGUST CARLSTEDT

was born Oct. 1, 1863, in Sweden, where he received a public school



AUGUST CARLSTEDT

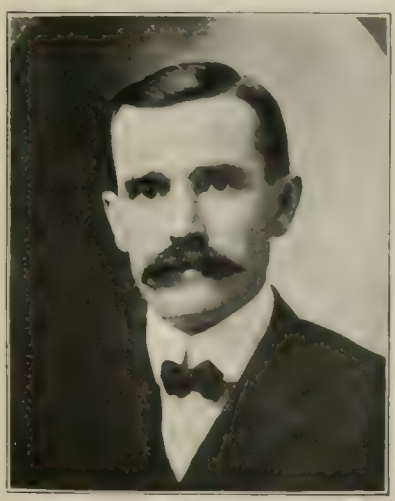
education. In 1888 he emigrated to America and settled in Chicago. In 1895 he went into business as a manufacturer of guitars and mandolins, making high grade instruments known as the Ideal guitars and mandolins. The firm of August Carlstedt & Co. increased their output year by year, so that by 1903 the firm had to secure larger quarters. Mr. Carlstedt bought a property in Crystal Lake, 43 miles northwest of Chicago, and built a factory and residence, where he is prospering.

He was married Feb. 14, 1891, to Alma Anderson. They have a daughter, born Aug. 20, 1892.

The family belongs to the Swedish Mission Church in Crystal Lake.

LOUIS M. EKSTRAND,

mechanical engineer of the American Steel and Wire Company for the Chicago district, is a native of Vermland, Sweden, born at Ransäter Jan. 2, 1864. Having obtained his schooling there, he emigrated at the age of twenty-three, first locating in Worcester, Mass., before taking his present position at Waukegan. Alongside of his technical work, Mr. Ekstrand gives much of his time and energy to his community. He has served for longer or shorter periods in the following capacities: assistant supervisor of the town



LOUIS MAGNUS EKSTRAND

of Waukegan, member of the board of education and chairman of the committee on education in the

County Board, member of the Lake County Republican Central Committee and member of the Republican City Committee.

He is a member of the Swedish Baptist Church of Waukegan and of the Modern Woodmen of America. He has served his church for many years as a deacon and chairman of the council.

In 1887 Mr. Ekstrand was married in Worcester, to Kristina Anderson, with whom he has six children: Agnes Maria, Henry Emanuel, Adolf Leroy, Eva Margreta, died in infancy, Ruth Ethel and Louis Kenneth. The family has a comfortable home at 131 Lenox ave.

ERIC O. SCHUGREN,

former pastor of the Swedish Baptist Church of Waukegan, was born



ERIC O. SCHUGREN

in Sweden May 3, 1874, his birthplace being Hassela, Helsingland. He came to this country in July, 1892, as a youth of eighteen, living first in Isanti county, Minn. After attending the South Dakota State University, he came to Chicago to study theology, entering the Swedish Baptist Theological Seminary at Morgan Park. From this institution he was graduated May 14, 1902, and shortly after ordained minister, taking charge of the Waukegan Swedish Baptist Church.

He is now a missionary in the Vinukonda Nilgiri district, Coonoor, India.

CARL JOHAN KARL,

minister of the Augustana Synod of the Lutheran Church, was born in Rockford Feb. 12, 1871. His father was Rev. Johannes Magnus Nelson, who, after studying at Vexiö, Sweden, and Paxton, Ill., was ordained to the ministry and served the church at Pecatonica, Ill., where he died. The widow is still living at Sacred Heart, Minn.

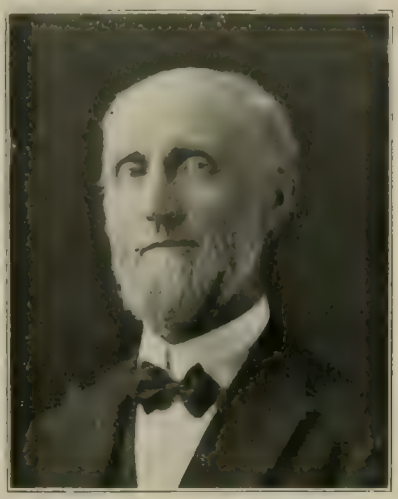
The son, Carl Johan, was reared at Pecatonica and Rockford. After attending the public schools, he entered the academic department at Augustana College, passing successive classes as rapidly as possible under the necessity of "staying out" for a school year now and then to earn his way. He graduated with the college class of 1900, entered the theological seminary of the same institution and, completing the course in 1903, was ordained at Paxton, whereupon he assumed charge of the Waukegan pastorate. There he

labored until the fall of 1900, when he removed to Clarkfield, Minn., on a call from the church at that place.

May 25, 1904, Rev. Karl was married to Miss Emily Johnson, a daughter of O. H. Johnson of Assaria, Kans., born June 20, 1879. They have a daughter, Irene, born in April, 1905.

JOHN BERNT ANDERSON

was born in Vestra Hed, Weddige, Halland, June 1, 1846. He came



JOHN BERNT ANDERSON

from Sweden in June, 1869, locating at Batavia, Ill. In 1871 he went to Chicago and worked as a carpenter until the following year, when he entered the Swedish Methodist theological school at Galva, Ill. After the institution had removed to Evanston, he continued there from 1874 to 1876, pursuing studies also at the Northwestern Academy. After graduation he joined the Central Illinois M. E. Conference at its meeting in Pekin, in the fall of 1876 and was then appointed to take up work in Clay Centre and Randolph, Kansas. He remained there for two years. In the fall of 1878, Rev. Anderson was transferred to Scandia, Kansas, upon being taken into full connection in the Northwestern Swedish Conference. Subsequently he has had pastoral appointments as follows: Victoria, Ill., 1880; Oakland, Neb., 1883; Stromsburg and Swede Plains, Neb., 1886; Saronville, Neb., 1887; Geneva and Batavia, Ill., 1890; Humboldt Park, Chicago, 1892; Melrose Park, 1894; Forest Glen, Chicago, 1896; Emanuel Church, Chicago, 1897; Joliet, 1900, Kingsburg, Cal. He is now stationed at Pasadena, Cal., 1907. Rev. Anderson has actively encouraged the building of churches and parsonages and the general rehabilitation of church property wherever found necessary.

While stationed at Clay Centre he was married to Miss Minnie Danielson of that place. The union has been blessed with two children, Orville Warren and Jennie Mabel.

JOHN L. CARLSON,

proprietor of the Seltzer Drug Store, was born in Mälilla, Sweden, March 24, 1868. He has been in the drug business from his boyhood, having begun working in a pharmacy in Sweden at the age of fourteen. Coming to America in 1884, he was em-

ployed by druggists first in Rockford, then in Chicago. After a few years he went to Joliet where



JOHN L. CARLSON

he has been located for more than sixteen years. He is a graduate of the Illinois College of Pharmacy of the Northwestern University.

Aside from his business in Joliet, Mr. Carlson is interested in Ross, Flowers and Co., manufacturing chemists of Chicago, and president of the company. He is also a director of the Will County National Bank of Joliet.

For a long term of years Mr. Carlson has served as a member of the board of supervisors of Will county. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Masonic order, the Knights Templar and the Mystic Shrine.

PETER E. HOLMSTROM

was born at Gårdby on the Swedish island of Öland, Oct. 3, 1861. Twenty years later he emigrated to the United States, locating at Joliet, Will county, Illinois. He is



PETER E. HOLMSTROM

engaged in the grocery business, at which he has been fairly successful. In religion he is a Lutheran and has served as trustee of the local Swedish Church for a number of years.

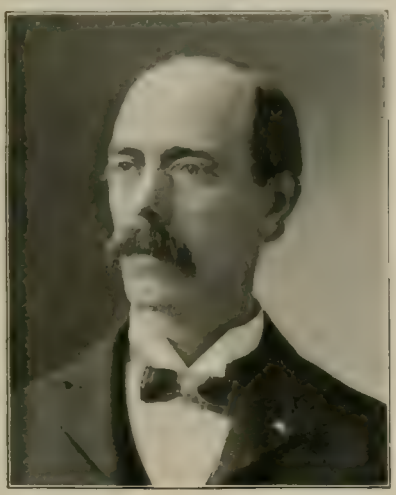
Active in the local political circles, Mr. Holmstrom has served as assistant supervisor and town collector and also member of the township high school board.

He is a director in the Citizens' National Bank and has served as director and treasurer for a number of years for the Swedish Lutheran Orphans Home at Joliet.

In 1887, Mr. Holmstrom took in marriage Miss Alma Swanson. The couple have a family of six children, equally divided between the sexes.

FRANK HUBENET

was born in Njurunda parish, Vesternorrland, Sweden, Dec. 30,



FRANK HUBENET

1862. His parents were Lars Wilhelm Hybinette, a blacksmith by trade, and Ulrika Eleonora Kjellberg. The father died in March, 1903, after having undergone a surgical operation at the city hospital at Sundsvall. Young Hubenet was educated in the common schools up to his 19th year, when he left his parental home and came over to this country, locating in Joliet. Here he has lived ever since, excepting the winters of 1885 and 1886 which he spent working in the pineries of Michigan. In 1890, Mr. Hubenet, as he now writes his name, established himself as a coal merchant, having been bookkeeper in a coal office for three years. Prior to that he was employed in the stone quarries at Joliet—from 1882.

Mr. Hubenet has been active for years in fraternal and church circles. He has served as trustee of the Swedish Lutheran Church since 1888. He has served as secretary of the local garrison of the Knights of the Globe, and is past astronomer of the local observatory of the North Star Benefit Association and chief conductor of its grand observatory. From 1895 to 1901 he was president of the Swedish-American Republican Club of Joliet, and in 1900 he was chosen vice-president for Will county of the Swedish-American Republican League of Illinois. From 1898 to 1903 he served as oil inspector for the township of Joliet and was special agent of statistics of manufacture for the United States census of 1890 and again in 1900.

Sept. 27, 1890, Mr. Hubenet was married to Miss Ellen Anderson. He is the father of ten children, four sons and six daughters, to wit: Will Waldemar, born 1891; Edith Elenora, 1893; Elna Ulrika, 1894; Ebba Henrietta, 1895; Blenda Linnea, 1897; Grant Torsten and Leif Lincoln, 1899; Viola Victoria, 1901; Ruby Ingeborg, 1904, and Grant Lincoln, 1906. Elna, Grant and Leif are dead. Mrs. Hubenet died Nov. 17, 1906.

ALBIN AUGUST JACOBSON,

pastor of the Bethlehem Swedish Lutheran Church at Joliet, is a native of Säby, Småland, Sweden, where he was born March 1, 1874.

At the age of thirteen he came in 1887 to the United States. He lived in Chicago until 1891,



ALBIN AUGUST JACOBSON

when he went to Rock Island to enter Augustana College. Having graduated in the college department with the class of '98, he entered the theological seminary and completed the presented courses in 1901, graduating with the degree of Bachelor of Divinity. He received ministerial ordination at the synodical meeting at Jamestown that year, whereupon he served the churches at Eau Claire and Levis, Wis. In July, 1903, he was called to the pastorate in Joliet, and entered upon his new duties the following November.

Rev. Jacobson was married Dec. 9, 1903, to Miss Bertha Thorsson, daughter of M. Thorsson of Chicago, and a former teacher in the Chicago public schools. Rev. Jacobson's father, August Jacobson, is still a Chicago resident.

Rev. Jacobson is an energetic pastor, and a man who does not limit his activities to the local field. He has actively interested himself in the welfare of the orphanage and home for the aged of the Illinois Conference, located just outside of the city of Joliet and was one of the chief workers in behalf of the new Salem Home for the Aged recently established alongside of the orphanage. He is president of the board of directors of Salem Home and is a member of the board of directors of the orphanage.

CARL M. LINDVALL

is a native of the city of Jönköping, Sweden, where he was born



CARL MAGNUS LINDVALL

Sept. 30, 1874. His parents, Capt C. A Lindvall and his wife, Wilma, are now residing at Moboda, Småland. The son was sent to the Vexiö gymnasium, which he left in 1891 to take up the

study of pharmacy. He was first employed by an apothecary at Lund, and having learned the science of compounding and dispensing drugs at the Pharmaceutical Institute in Stockholm, held positions as a druggist in the cities of Ulricehamn, Hernösand, Gefle, Stockholm and Göteborg. In 1900 he emigrated, arriving in America on his birthday. He went to Chicago and later to Rockford and located in Joliet in 1902, engaging in the drug business on his own account April 1.

Sept. 2, 1903, Mr. Lindvall was married to Alma Lundgren from Göteborg.

He is an active fraternity man, holding membership in the A. F. and A. M., the Svithiod Order, the N. A. R. D., the N. S. B. A., and the Nordstjernan lodge.

CHARLES A. LARSON

was born in the Carl Gustaf parish, Elfsborgs län, Sweden, July 14, 1862, and has resided in Joliet since 1880, the year of his emigration. He was educated at Prof. Russell's Business College, and in 1882 obtained employment with the hardware firm of Strong, Bush & Handwerk, remaining with that house for twenty years. In 1902 he formed a partnership with Mr. N. Benson and opened a hardware store at 801 Cass st., under the firm name of Larson & Benson.

A Lutheran in faith, Mr. Larson has served the local Swedish Lutheran Church in the capacity of trustee and treasurer. In 1899 he held the office of town collector. He is a member of several fraternal and benevolent societies, including the North Star and the Knights of the Globe.



CHARLES A. LARSON

Mr. Larson is married to Wilhelmina Sophia Jonson, who hails from the city of Oskarshamn. To them have been born two sons, Harry E. and Milton A. Larson.

ANDREW A. NORDSTEDT

was born at Bro parish, Westmanland, Sweden. Jan. 7, 1865. He early began to work as a factory hand in his native place. Coming over to this country in April, 1886, he obtained employment with the Washburn and Moen Manufacturing Co. in Worcester, Mass. and remained there until 1888. When the Illinois Steel Company's rod mill at Joliet was completed he there secured a better paid job as rod roller, his residence in Joliet dating from May 25, 1888. Having steadily

worked his way up Mr. Nordstedt is now superintendent of the rod mill at a handsome salary.



ANDREW AUGUST NORDSTEDT

He is not affiliated with any church but holds membership in the Knights of the Globe, the North Star Benefit Association and a number of other fraternal orders.

On Sept. 6, 1890, Mr. Nordstedt was married to Selma Emilia Norberg and the pair has been blessed with three sons, Einar, Gardner and Grant.

C. OSCAR SVENSON

was born April 3, 1857, in Oskarshamn, Sweden. His parents were Carl Johan Alfred and Christine Svenson. After acquiring a high school education he learned the trade of wood-turning under his father's instruction. Four years were spent in clerking for his father, who had become a merchant. After running a stage line for a time, the son built the King Oscar hotel, which he sold after leasing it for a period.

Mr. Svenson emigrated to this country in May, 1887, and settled in Joliet. For a year he worked at carpentry, and then resumed his old trade of wood-turning. He continued in this vocation until December, 1894, when he accepted an appointment as deputy county clerk and has since retained this position.

Dec. 1, 1888, Mr. Svenson was united in marriage with Mrs. Ida Charlotte Hedlund, née Jacobson. Their children are: C. Oscar, Jr.,



C. OSCAR SVENSON

Emily Olivia, Knut Ahlvin and Esther Victoria.

CHARLES G. TENGDIN,

chief engineer of the Illinois State Penitentiary at Joliet, was born in the city of Linköping, Sweden, Oct. 14, 1862. He was educated in Swedish public and private

schools. Coming to this country in the year 1883, he located at Joliet. Success has crowned his



CHARLES G. TENGDIN

endeavors and he is now one of the prosperous and highly respected citizens of that city. Besides being chief engineer of the great penal institution, he is financially interested in an industrial enterprise, known as the Merchants' Stone Company, holding the office of secretary of the corporation. They operate two quarries and a stone saw-mill, employing altogether some forty men.

Mr. Tengdin has long served as trustee of the Swedish Lutheran Church of Joliet, and president of the local Swedish Republican Club. He is a member of the National Engineers' Association and has held the office of vice-president of the local lodge. He is also a member of Mt. Joliet lodge No. 42, A. F. and A. M.

In 1888 he was married to Anna Sophia Johnson, and the issue of their union is a family of three sons and five daughters.

SWAN H. NEWMAN

was born Sept. 27, 1862, in Jemshög, Blekinge, Sweden. His mother died when he was six years of age and when he was thirteen, his father, Håkan Håkanson Newman, went to America. A short time after the father had left, Swan was sold at public auction to the lowest bidder and Jöns Jönsson in Gränum bought him to care for him until confirmed, the buyer receiving from the community the amount of his



SWAN H. NEWMAN

bid toward the support of the child. In 1879 his father sent tickets for Swan and four sisters to come over to this country. They came to Assaria, Kansas, where he subsequently worked as clerk and carpenter. In the fall

of 1884 he was matriculated as a student in Bethany College, Lindsborg, Kans. After completing the academic course, he went to Augustana College and Theological Seminary in 1887. Graduating from the seminary in 1895, he was ordained the same year at the synodical meeting in June. He was called to the Swedish Lutheran Church at McKeesport, Pa., where he labored nearly three years, removing from there in 1898 to Lockport. In 1898–1902 he edited a local church paper by the name of *Concordia*, and in 1901 published in Swedish a history of "The Swedes of Lockport and their work."

On Sept. 5, 1895, he was married to Miss Anna Augusta Anderson from New Carlisle, Ind. They have five children, Esther Dorothea, Sven Theodore, Emil Emanuel, David Nathaniel, and Albert Luther.

Rev. Newman in 1904 gave up his charge at Lockport and removed to Burnside, Ia., taking charge of the Swedish Lutheran congregation in that place.

JOEL S. JOHNSON

was born at Norra Vram, in the Swedish province of Skåne, Feb. 16, 1876. Emigrating in November, 1893, he came to Elkhart, Ill., to live with his uncle, who owns a farm. After three years he removed to Athens, Ill., and there preached his first sermon. Entering North Park College, Chicago, he was graduated from that institution in 1902. Thereupon he entered the service of the Swedish Evangelical Mission Covenant as a regular pastor and



JOEL S. JOHNSON

was stationed at Lockport, where he had served the Mission Church as a student for several years prior to his ordination.

Recently, Rev. Johnson resolved to take up work in the heathen mission field, and was sent as a missionary to China.

COOK COUNTY

(OUTSIDE OF CHICAGO)

BERWYN CHICAGO HEIGHTS EVANSTON LEMONT MAYWOOD MELROSE PARK—OAK PARK

ANDREW ANDERSON,

watchmaker, was born in Germundslycke, Halltorp, Småland,



ANDREW ANDERSON

Nov. 16, 1851. He learned the watchmaker's trade by apprenticeship in Kalmar and Upsala for five years, afterward going into business for himself at Mörbylånga, Öland, where he remained for nine years, and at Ekenäs, Småland, four years, until he emigrated from Sweden in August, 1887. Coming to Chicago he was employed as a watchmaker and jeweler by B. F. Clettenberg & Co. and W. G. Morris for different periods up to May, 1896. Then he established himself as a watchmaker and jeweler, doing business for four years in the city proper and after that time in the suburb of Berwyn.

Mr. Anderson is a member of the Swedish Lutheran Church in Berwyn and has served on its board of deacons for a number of years. He is an ardent temperance worker in the ranks of the I. O. G. T. and the Templars of Temperance, and president of the sick benefit society of that organization; also a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. He has served as president of the Independent Political Club of Berwyn.

FRITZ N. ANDRÉN

was born in Skåne, Sweden, June 29, 1862. He is a son of Rev. O. C. T. Andrén, a pioneer clergyman of the Swedish Lutheran Church of America, who returned to Sweden and was rector of the parish of Asarum, Blekinge, until his death, which occurred June 11, 1870.

The son completed six classes in the higher elementary school of Jönköping and completed his college course at Augustana College, Rock Island, after coming to this country in 1880. Mr. Andrén located in Chicago, where for seven years he was bookkeeper with Engberg & Holmberg, publishers and booksellers.

For the past 16 years Mr. Andrén has been with the Chicago office of the Phoenix Insurance



FRITZ NATHANAEL ANDRÉN

Company of Hartford, Conn., and holds the position of cashier.

He is an active churchman and has served for three years as deacon and choir leader of the Augustana Church of Berwyn.

For four years he was a member of Company B, 2d Regiment of the Illinois National Guards.

On May 4, 1887, Mr. Andrén married Olga Charlotta Wickstrom of La Porte, Ind., born Jan. 14, 1863. They have two sons and two daughters, Amalia, Olof, Ebba and Carl.

HERMAN CATHONY

was born in Bredaryd parish, Småland, Sweden, May 23, 1875, and and came to the United States in 1893 as a young man of eighteen, equipped with the education afforded by the Swedish common schools. Having learned the painter's trade from his father, he took up that occupation. During his first four years in Chicago he was employed by Thybony & Johnson and other firms as interior decorator. In 1897 he started in business for himself in Berwyn, where he has a store and does contract work in painting and decorator.

Mr. Cathony is a member of the Swedish Luth. Augustana Church and has served as trustee and treasurer since 1901. He is also



HERMAN CATHONY

treasurer of the Temperance society of the Chicago district.

CHARLES J. FAIRVALLEY

was born in Fagerhult parish, Småland, Sweden, Nov. 7, 1860, and came to this country in 1887, after having been educated in the common schools and at a military academy in the land of his birth. He has served as a police officer in Cicero for four years and sub-

sequently as village marshal of Berwyn and a constable of Cook county.



CHARLES JOHN FAIRVALLEY

Prior to going on the police force he was engaged in the building trade, doing business in that line in the suburbs west for four years.

Mr. Fairvalley is a member and deacon of the Swedish Baptist Church of Berwyn and a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, having served as clerk of the local camp.

He is married and has four children, Alma E. V., Agnes J. R., Frances J. T. and Joseph H.

JOHN A. JOHNSON,

minister of the Swedish Baptist Church, was born in Runsten parish, Öland, Sweden, June 4, 1874. In 1893 he emigrated, and lived for six years in Ida Grove, Iowa. Harboring a desire to become a minister of the Gospel, Mr. Johnson in 1899 came to Chicago and took up the study of theology at the Swedish Baptist Theological Seminary in connection with the University of Chicago. After four years spent at the seminary in Morgan Park he was graduated as a candidate for the ministry, and upon being duly ordained, took pastoral charge of the Swedish Baptist Church of Berwyn. This church was organized in 1895 and now numbers about one hundred members. Rev. Johnson served this church for one year, after which he removed to Gard-



JOHN A. JOHNSON

ner, Mass., being succeeded at Berwyn by Rev. Eric Carlson.

SVEN A. JOHNSON

was born in Harplinge parish, Halland, Sweden, May 12, 1854. Emigrating in 1881, he came to Chicago. He is a furnituremaker by trade and has been in the em-

ploy of the Fair for a long term of years.

In 1890 he removed to the sub-



SVEN ARON JOHNSON

urb of Berwyn. There he has been an active churchman. When the Swedish Lutheran Augustana Church was organized in 1898 he became a member of the church council and has served ever since as vice-chairman of the board of deacons. For the same length of time Mr. Johnson has served as the superintendent of the Sunday school.

Mr. Johnson was married Sept. 11, 1886, to Miss Emma Johnson. The union was dissolved by the death of Mrs. Johnson early in 1894. The children of this marriage are, Birdie, Blanche and Sunny. Sept. 16, 1894, he married his present wife, whose maiden name was Hulda Charlotta Rydelius.

Mr. Johnson is affiliated with the Royal League and the Royal Circle.

GUSTAF JÖRANSON

was born March 13, 1868, in Nykroppa, Vermland, Sweden, and obtained a common school education in his home district.

In 1887 he came to Chicago, direct from the old country, and here went to work as a machinist. Mr. Jöranson is now engaged with A Schauble & Co., Barrington, Ill., in the manufacture of gas and gasoline engines. He has secured several patents on some of the best gasoline engines now in the market.

Mr. Jöranson belongs to the



GUSTAF JÖRANSON

Modern Woodmen of America and resides in Berwyn, Ill.

FRANS E. LINDBLOM

was born Jan. 16, 1865, in Delebo, Maderjö parish, Småland. From Sweden he came to this country in April, 1888. A situation was soon obtained in the factory of W. W. Kimball Piano Co., where

he acquired a knowledge of all the details of piano making. In the meantime he attended night



FRANS EMERICK LINDBLOM

school. Subsequently he worked in the Hallet C. Davis piano factory for a period. In company with W. H. Burns he started the Yueill-Lindblom Piano Co. At that time he superintended a department in the Schumann piano factory until they removed from Chicago. At present he makes the F. E. Lindblom pianos at Berwyn, Ill. He also has charge of a department in the Strohber piano factory.

Mr. Lindblom belongs to the Sw. Luth. Zion Church at Berwyn.

CHARLES E. LINDGREN

was born July 10, 1857, in Torsåker, Gestrikland, Sweden. His father was a miller in Hedemora until 1869, when he emigrated to South America. The family, consisting of C. E. Lindgren, then a boy of 12 years, his four younger brothers and their mother, were left to care for themselves. For three years they occasionally had word from their father, but after that he was never heard from.

In 1886 he emigrated to the United States and located in Chicago. He at once secured work at his trade, that of a machinist. The first three winters in Chicago he attended the evening sessions at the Froebel School, in order to acquire a knowledge of the English language. For the past 6 years he has been an employee of the Union Horse Nail Co.

He is a member and a deacon of the Swedish Baptist Church of



CHARLES E. LINDGREN

Berwyn, where he has resided since 1894.

On Jan. 16, 1884, C. E. Lindgren married a native of Vermland, with whom he has had six children, five of whom are living.

FRANK L. MALMSTEDT,

real estate dealer, was born in Norrköping, Sweden, Dec. 10,



FRANK L. MALMSTEDT

1848. He left home when a boy. Realizing the need of an education, he took a four years' course in a school in Copenhagen, Denmark, and was graduated. He went from Stockholm to this country and to Chicago in 1881.

Mr. Malmstedt is actually the father of Berwyn, which was laid out and founded by him. He has laid out a number of town sites in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Florida, and for the past five years he was employed by the East Chicago Company, which is building the new cities of East Chicago and Indiana Harbor.

In April, 1807, he was appointed superintendent of Berwyn, the office he now holds.

Mr. Malmstedt has held different offices in the Methodist Church and of various societies of which he is a member, and has been a member of the board of education in the school district No. 100.

He has traveled extensively in Europe and other parts of the world, He is a good public speaker and has a facile pen, as shown in numerous contributions to newspapers and periodicals, especially *Svenska Amerikanaren* of Chicago.

Nov. 23, 1883, Mr. Malmstedt was married to a German lady, with whom he has had three sons: Philip W., George A. and Arthur L., the youngest having been accidentally killed in 1903 at the age of sixteen.

CHARLES M. MOLINE

was born at Torslunda, Småland, Sweden, June 24, 1875. He came



CHARLES M. MOLINE

to this country in 1893 and has been a resident of Chicago and Berwyn since that time

Having had his schooling in Sweden, he went to work imme-

diately on coming here. Mr. Moline served for one year on the police force and for a time was a member of the volunteer fire department. Later he established himself as a dealer in ice and coal, continuing in that line of business in Berwyn up to the present.

Mr. Moline in 1903 was elected a trustee of the village. He is a member of the Augustana Swedish Lutheran Church, of the Royal League and of the Härolden Temperance Society, having served as president of the latter.

ANDREW M. NELSON

was born July 28, 1859, on the Spjuthult estate in Hjorted par-



ANDREW M. NELSON

ish, Småland, Sweden. He obtained a public school education in his native land.

In May, 1879, he came to this country, stopping first in New York City. He later removed to Chicago. At present he resides in Berwyn, where he prospers in business as the proprietor of a laundry.

Mr. Nelson is a member of the First M. E. Church of Berwyn. He holds a membership in Harmony Lodge No. 110, Knights of Pythias, in which he has held every office from inner guard to president.

CARL H. PETERSON

was born in Chicago Nov. 9, 1872. He was educated in the public



CARL H. PETERSON

schools and in the Chicago Manual Training School.

Mr. Peterson is a mechanical engineer and superintendent. His office is at 623, 9 Jackson boulevard, Chicago, and his residence is at Berwyn.

He takes an active interest in municipal matters, and has served one term as a trustee on the village board.

Mr. Peterson is a member of the Swedish Baptist Church in Berwyn and has served as chorister and church clerk. He was a member of the music committee of the male chorus Sångarbröder, affiliating with the Swedish Baptist Church in Illinois. He was president of the Jubilee Chorus at the Golden Jubilee (1902) of the Swedish Baptist Church of America. Later he was the president of the United Swedish Choirs of Chicago, whose concert on April 4, 1903, was brought to so successful an issue that 14,000 kronor were sent to the Swedish Famine Relief Fund. .

CHARLES ADAMS

was born May 15, 1859, in the parish of Ram, Vermland, Sweden. His parents are Adam Svenson, a blaster at Lesjöfors Iron Works, and Anna Carolina Svenson. Mr. Adams, following in his father's footsteps, acquired skill as a machinist. As such he had no difficulty in obtaining a situation when he came over to this country in 1880. He was first employed at Fort Scott, Kan., working there as a machinist for 12 years in the Walburn & Swanson machine works and foundry. He is still in the service of the same concern, now the American Foundry and Machine Co., holding the position of foreman of the machine shop. He has erected machines for the company in all the southern and many of the western states.

Mr. Adams was married in 1883, at Fort Scott, to Miss Augusta Peterson from Nerike. Their children are Nettie and Edith.

Mr. Adams belongs to the Royal Arcanum and the Independent Order of Svithiod.

P. OLOF I. BERSELL

minister of the Swedish Lutheran Augustana Synod, was born at



PETRUS OLOF IMMANUEL BERSELL

Rock Island, Ill., May 6, 1882, his parents being Prof. A. O. Bersell, deceased, and Uma Botilda, née Lagerlund.

After completing six grades of the public school he was enrolled as a student at the academic department of Augustana College in 1892, and graduated from college, with the bachelor's degree, in 1899. Four years later he entered the divinity school of the same institution, graduating in the spring of 1906 with the degree of B. D. At the annual meeting of the Augustana Synod, held

shortly afterward, he was ordained to the ministry and assumed charge of the Immanuel Swedish Lutheran Church at Chicago Heights, to which he had been called.

While a student, Bersell taught parochial school in a number of localities in the central West. During the school year of 1899—1900 he was instructor in Greek and other subjects at Luther Academy, at Wahoo, Neb. During the next two years he taught public school in Yalmar, Mich., also preaching in the mission field of the Illinois Conference in Northern Michigan. For one year, 1904–5, Mr. Bersell was instructor in United States History at Augustana College. He was president of the graduating class of the Augustana Theological Seminary in 1906.

CARL G. CARLSON

was born Nov. 17, 1855, in Fridene parish, Vestergötland, Sweden, where his parents, Carl Peter and Anna Lisa Johnson, still have their home.

In 1886 he emigrated to America, locating in Minneapolis. After a short stay he moved to St. Paul, and from there to Chicago Heights, his present place of residence.

Since he came to this country Mr. Carlson has been mostly employed in piano factories. He also worked for the Chicago Coffin Co., and has been foreman at the Earhuff Piano Factory in St. Paul, Minn. At present he holds the foremanship in the trimming department at the Baldwin piano factory in Chicago Heights.

Mr. Carlson is a very active



CARL GUSTAF CARLSON

member in the Swedish Mission Church of Chicago Heights, now serving as a deacon.

In 1880 Mr. Carlson was married to Miss Justina Carlson, born April 27, 1857. Their children are: Edla Kardula, Oscar Wilhelm, Anna Emabel and Signe Frances Eula.

[CHARLES CHAMPENE

was born June 22, 1866, in Skållerud parish, Elfsborgs län, Sweden, and there obtained a common school education. In 1886 he came to the United States, intending to settle in New Haven, Conn., but after a five weeks' stay he left for Chicago. He lived eight years in that city, after which he moved to Chicago Heights. There he has been employed as a roller

in the plant of the Inland Steel Co. for more than ten years.

Mr. Champene is a member of the Lutheran Church, and also belongs to Svithiod Lodge No. 1, I. O. S.

In 1891 he married Miss Maria Stacke. They have three children, all boys.



CHARLES CHAMPENE

CHARLES P. JOHNSON

was born Jan. 26, 1863, in Fernebo parish, Vermland. He left Sweden in 1886 and on reaching this country settled first in McKeesport, then in Chicago and finally in Chicago Heights. There Mr. Johnson holds the position of foreman of coremakers in the plant of the American Brake Shoe and Foundry Co. He was formerly employed by the Calumet Foundry Co. in Englewood.

Mr. Johnson is a member of the Swedish Mission Church.

His wife is Albertina Carolina, née Råbock, born Aug. 19, 1866, in Vestervik, Småland, where her father was a lumber merchant.



CHARLES P. JOHNSON

Their children are, Arthur C., Florence E. C., Mabel L. and Nimrod C. H.

FRANK JOHNSON

was born Jan. 25, 1857, in Ljusnaberg parish, Örebro län, Sweden. His parents were Frans Johnson, a miner from Nya Kopparberget, and Lovisa Johnson.

After attending the public schools in his native land he emigrated to this western Land of Promise in 1881. His first home was at Norway, Mich., where he worked in the mines for ten years. Leaving for Aurora, Ill., he secured employment as a machinist successively with Hoyt Bros., the Hercules Ice Co. and the Aurora Automatic Co. At present he is a machinist with the American

Brake Shoe and Foundry Co. at Chicago Heights.

Mrs. Mathilda Albertina Johnson, his wife, was born 1859 in Hjulsjö parish, Örebro län. They have four children, Hilda Olivia, Johanna Maria, Ettie Alida and Frank Oscar.

The family attend the Swedish Lutheran Church at Chicago Heights.

CARL H. JOHNSON

was born March 29, 1856, in Hammar parish, Örebro län, Sweden.



CARL HERMAN JOHNSON

He was twenty-six years of age when he came to this country, where he immediately sought work of any description. He was in turn employed as a sailor, a laborer, a milk-dealer and a farmer.

Mr. Johnson is a member of the Swedish Mission Church of Chicago Heights. He was married June 29, 1885, to Ida Olson, and is the father of two children, a son, Arthur, born in 1887, and a daughter, Annie, born in 1890.

LARS E. JOHNSON

was born Nov. 16, 1865, in Örebro, Sweden. His parents are



LARS EMIL JOHNSON

Lars Eric Johnson, a building contractor in Örebro, and Mathilda, née Peterson. After receiving his early training in the public schools of Sweden, he learned the painting trade. In 1886 he emigrated to America and spent eleven years in Chicago, working for one of the largest painting and decorating concerns in the city. Subsequently he located at Chicago Heights as a painting contractor.

Mr. Johnson and his family are Lutherans in faith, belonging to the Swedish Lutheran Church of Chicago Heights. The fraternal orders of which Mr. Johnson is a member are the Maccabees and Svithiod.

Nov. 29, 1894, Mr. Johnson was

married to Miss Ida Sophia, the daughter of Jonas and Maria Matson of Thyfors, Dalarne. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are: Dora Alice, Elna and Lars Elmer.

GUSTAF JOHNSON

was born Dec. 27, 1863, in Ålem parish, Småland, Sweden, where



GUSTAF JOHNSON

he enjoyed a common school education. He emigrated in 1882 and since reaching this country has lived in Chicago and Chicago Heights. Obtaining employment as a plasterer, he steadily worked his way up and soon began contracting for work on his own account. He was in this business in Chicago for many years before locating in Chicago Heights some seven years ago.

Mr. Johnson's parents are Johan Peter Gustafson of Gunnarsmåla, Småland, and Johanna Gustafson, née Hanson.

HILDING LUNDMARK

was born Sept. 18, 1865, in Örebro, Sweden. At the age of sev-



HILDING LUNDMARK

enteen he left his birthplace and became apprenticed to a machinist. After working in the trade for three years he took hire as a fireman on an Atlantic steamer. One year later he entered a navigation school, from which he was graduated in 1887. After serving as engineer in the old country until 1893, he emigrated to the United States. Here he held a position as engineer but a short time before engaging in the grocery business, a line in which he has continued to the present time.

Mr. Lundmark is an adherent of the Lutheran Church. He is a member of different societies, including the Royal Arcanum, the Knights of the Maccabees, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Chicago Heights Social Club.

ALBERT NELSON

was born Nov. 3, 1875, in Brunskog, Vermland, Sweden. At six-



ALBERT NELSON

teen years of age he came to this country and immediately began work as an apprentice boy for the Sargent Foundry Co. in Englewood. By ambition and industry he soon rose from one position to another until he became foreman. At present he is engaged in this capacity with the American Brake Shoe and Foundry Co. at Chicago Heights.

Mr. Nelson and his wife, Lydia Catharine, were married in Englewood May 18, 1899. Their one child is named Wilbert.

Mr. Nelson is a member of the Order of Svithiod, and has acted as financial secretary in the local lodge.

JOHN NELSON

was born Feb. 23, 1860, in Boda parish, Vermland. In 1879 he came over from Sweden and settled in Sycamore, Ill., removing later to Chicago Heights, where he obtained work in a foundry and continues in the same occupation.

Mr. Nelson is a most active worker in the Swedish Mission Church, in which he has served a number of years as Sunday school superintendent. He belongs to the order of United Workmen.

His wife, Augusta, née Sund, was born April 11, 1859, at Motala, Sweden. Their children are, Carl Gustaf and Dora Lavinia, living, and Florence Lillie and Edna, deceased.

JOHN E. SJÖHOLM

was born in Munktorp parish, Vestmanland, Sweden. At an early



JOHN ERIC SJÖHOLM

age he removed to Skinskatteberg parish and learned the carpenter's trade as a boy. In the spring of

1884 he came over to this country and worked at his trade in Springfield, Mo., for two years. Then he left for Kansas, staying for short periods in Wichita, Hutchinson and Topeka. In the spring of 1892 he came to Chicago. Five years later he located in Chicago Heights, where he has since been engaged in business as a building contractor.

Mr. Sjöholm is a member and a trustee of the First Baptist Church, commander of the K. O. T. M., trustee of the I. O. O. F. and vice commander of White Cross, local lodges. He is chairman of the Scandinavian Hundred Men Aid Society and supervisor of the town of Bloom, Cook county.

Mr. Sjöholm married Miss Emma M. Johnson of Verona, Mo., in 1886.

HJALMAR SWENSON

was born Sept. 30, 1865, in Lund, Sweden. He emigrated and came to Chicago in 1888, and two years later was married to Miss Emma Nelson. Mr. Swenson was a machinist by trade, but during the past thirteen years he and his wife have been engaged in poultry breeding, making a specialty of hatching full-blooded varieties, such as "White Crested" and "Black Polish." Mr. and Mrs. Swenson have received the highest awards at poultry exhibitions in Chicago, Indianapolis and Chicago Heights. They ship eggs to all parts of this country, and also to British Columbia, Mexico and Sweden. Incubators are used exclusively for brooding purposes.

Mr. Swenson and family belong



HJALMAR SWENSON

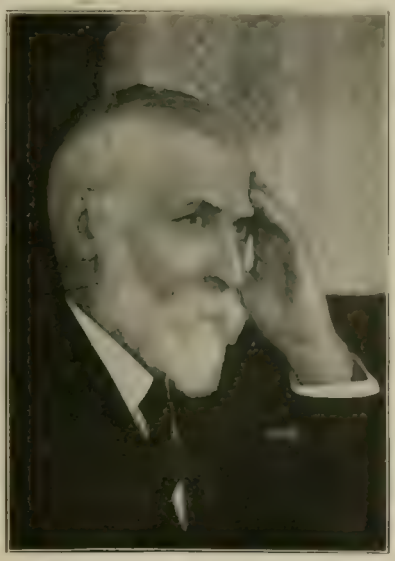
the Swedish Lutheran Church at Chicago Heights.

Mrs. Swenson was born Nov. 24, 1865, at Bovik, Nerike, where her father, Nils Fredrik Carlson, was engaged in the mining industry.

ALBERT F. ERICSON,

who has distinguished himself in the Swedish Methodist Episcopal Church as a preacher and editor, but more especially as an educator, was born in Stockholm, the son of E. H. Erikson, rector of the Katarina Church, and enjoyed splendid educational advantages in his youth. After pursuing studies for several years at the Maria collegiate school, followed by three years of private tutorship, he finished his education at the Strengnäs gymnasium.

As a young man of eighteen he emigrated to this country in 1857. Shortly after his arrival in



ALBERT FREDRIK ERICSON

America, he became converted and at once began to preach with zeal and fervor. Ere long the young preacher proved to be gifted and possess exceptional ability to interest his audience, and in view of the great lack of preachers the desire to acquire him for the ministry of the Methodist Church was all the more urgent. In 1859 he received his first assignment from the Central Illinois Conference, that of assistant to the Rev. Mr. Anders J. Anderson of the extensive Andover circuit. After one year's service in this field he in turn had charges at Victoria, Beaver and Rockford till 1864, when, at the removal of *Sändebudet* from Rockford to Chicago, he became its editor. After two years he resigned the editorship to take charge of the congregation at Andover.

In the fall of 1866 Ericson was called as teacher of Swedish at the proposed Swedish Methodist theological seminary. The better to prepare himself for the position he was sent to Sweden to take a course in the Swedish language and literature. While in Stockholm for this purpose, he also engaged in preaching, and in a short time attracted audiences that filled the hall to overflowing. So eager were the people to hear his sermons that many brought their lunches in the morning and remained the rest of the day, in order to hold their seats for the evening service. Several of these eager listeners afterwards became ministers of the Methodist Church. A good foundation for a church was laid, including the organization of a Sunday school and a church choir. Overtures were made to Ericson to remain and continue the work, but, having come to Sweden for a different purpose, he was obliged to decline and to return to America.

On his return, however, he was unable to assume the position to which he had been called, for the sufficient reason that the proposed institution was not ready to open. Another equally important position was then offered him, he being again made editor of the denominational organ. He edited the paper up to the time of the Chicago fire, when, in consequence of that disaster, it was discontin-

ued for a time, and Ericson was assigned to the church in Brooklyn, N. Y., assuming charge in April, 1872. After eight years of labor in this field, Ericson removed to Worcester, Mass., where he founded the Swedish Methodist church, which is now one of the largest in the East. He remained in charge for three years, till 1883, when he accepted the proffered position of head of the theological seminary at Evanston, which he still holds, devoting himself to that work with undiminished power and effort. During the first three years at the seminary he also had charge of the Swedish Methodist Church in Evanston.

In the capacity of president of the theological seminary, Ericson has accomplished his principal work, although as shown, he has rendered eminent service as a preacher and editor. The majority of the younger and middle aged clergymen of the Swedish Methodist Church in America, to the number of 170, have been educated under his direction. In his capacity of educator Dr. Ericson thus has a sphere of influence commensurate with the denomination to which he belongs.

JOEL A. HOLMGREN

is the son of Lars Holmgren, a schoolmaster of Flackarp, Skåne, Sweden, where he was born Sept. 9, 1867. His childhood days were spent at Flackarp, near the city of Lund. When the boy was eleven years old, his father gave up teaching on account of failing health, and moved to Sniberup, settling on a small farm. With two years of common schooling



JOEL AUGUST HOLMGREN

as a foundation, to which was added private tutoring for a like period, young Holmgren was prepared to enter the normal seminary at Lund to fit himself for his father's profession, but lacking nine days in the age required for admission, his application was refused. This caused him to change his plans, and he instead began learning the cabinetmaker's trade. After working at that for one year at Hörby and three years in Kristianstad, he came to this country in the fall of 1887, joining his brother in Evanston. By him he was induced to become a painter. At this trade he was employed for several years, in Evanston, Chicago, Brooklyn and Memphis, Tenn.

In 1894 he established himself in business as a painter and inte-

rior decorator, and continues in that line, with office at 821 Main st., Evanston.

Mr. Holmgren is an active churchman. As a member of the Swedish M. E. Church of Evanston, he has served as president and secretary of the Epworth League, as steward for several years, as Sunday school superintendent for five years, and is now holding that position, as also that of church trustee.

Married June 22, 1897, to Mary Svedlund, Mr. Holmgren has three sons, born as follows: Irving Joel, 1898; Einar William, 1891; Stanford Laurentius, 1904.

KNUT J. LOWENDAHL

was born July 13, 1869, in Grenna, Småland. He learned the



KNUT JOEL LOWENDAHL

shoemaker's trade in his father's shop, and later worked at it in Stockholm and other places in Sweden, finally going into business for himself in Upsala. In 1891 he left for America. After staying in New York for a time, he went to Canada, and eventually located in Evanston. After some experience in the cement sidewalk business, he spent a year in the shoe trade in Chicago. In 1893 he again started in business in Evanston, in partnership with Mr. Ahlberg, the two opening a shoe store at 602 Dempster st., where they are still located, enjoying a well established custom.

Mr. Lowendahl was married Oct. 26, 1895, to Annette Ahlberg. They have one son.

JONAS MORTENSON,

carriage maker, was born April 11, 1871, in Arbrå parish, Gefle-



JONAS MORTENSON

borgs län, Sweden. In his native country he was in turn a baker, farm laborer and blacksmith. The last named trade he mastered and received a diploma for skilled ar-

tisanship. He emigrated in 1892, going to Omaha, Neb. After a four years' stay, he left for Wilmette and then for Evanston in 1898.

In 1901 he started in business as a carriagemaker and blacksmith and still runs a busy shop at Maple ave. and University place.

Mr. Mortenson is a member of the Knights of Maccabees. In politics he is a straight Republican and in religion a Lutheran.

Mr. Mortenson was married in 1891 to Miss Anna Strid. They have one son and two daughters.

CHARLES G. NELSON,

member of the Methodist Episcopal clergy and at present financial



CHARLES GUSTAF NELSON

agent of the Swedish M. E. Theological Seminary at Evanston, was born May 20, 1848, in Sweden. By his parents, Magnus and Ingrid Lena Nelson, he was brought to this country at the age of six. The family came through Chicago in 1854 and located in Wisconsin. While en route from Galena to Stillwater, the boy fell overboard from a river boat and had a hairbreadth escape from drowning. He attended public school and the Taylor's Falls (Minn.) Academy, and pursued subsequent studies in special subjects under the private tutorship of professors at Knox College, and under the direction of Dr. Clark of Galesburg. In 1868–70 Mr. Nelson served as county clerk of Burnett county, Wis.

In 1869 he gave his heart to God, and entered the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal Church the year following. Since then he has served the following congregations in a pastoral capacity, viz., those at Grantsburg, Wis., Stillwater, St. Paul, Minneapolis, Lindstrom and Red Wing, Minn., Galesburg, Ill., Ishpeming, Mich., and the First and May st. churches in Chicago. Mr. Nelson has been presiding elder for four different periods and for six years superintendent of the Northern Swedish Mission Conference. Part of the time the duties of these offices were added to his charge as regular pastor. For the past five years he has filled the position of financial agent of the seminary at Evanston.

Rev. Nelson has been in charge of the erection of a number of churches and parsonages and the raising of funds wherewith burdensome church debts were effaced. He was active in the organization of the Northwestern Swedish Con-

ference in 1877 and in the movement for its division into three conferences in 1893, and also took a live interest in the location of the theological seminary at Evanston in the year 1881. It was he who raised the greater part of the money for the first seminary building. In 1884 Rev. Nelson was a member of the General Conference of the M. E. Church, and he is elected to represent the Northern Conference at the General Conference to meet in 1908 at Baltimore.

The title of D. D. was conferred on Rev. Nelson in 1903, by the Central Wesleyan College of Warrenton, Mo.

DAVID NELSON

was born Nov. 8, 1868, in Kumla, Sweden. In 1887 he came to this



DAVID NELSON

country and settled in Joliet. He soon left for Chicago and finally located in Evanston, where he now resides. In 1893 Mr. Nelson opened a laundry, starting in on a small scale. Now the Nelson Laundry is the largest on the North Shore. The main office is in Evanston, with branches in Wilmette, Lake Forest and Rogers Park. Mr. Nelson is business manager as well as proprietor.

Mr. David Nelson is a member of the Sw. Free Mission Church of Evanston. The one society to which he belongs is the Modern Woodmen of America.

His wife is Elizabeth Nelson, and their children are, John Walter and Gerda Margaret.

VICTOR ORTLUND

was born Nov. 16, 1862, in Filipstad, Sweden. He emigrated in



VICTOR ORTLUND

1883 to South Amboy, N. J. Next he settled in Chicago and finally made Evanston his home. Here he embarked in the laundry business and is now the proprietor of

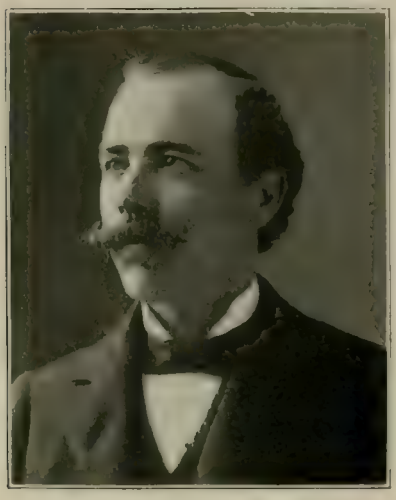
the French Laundry, at 806 Dempster st.

Mr. Ortlund is a member of the Swedish Meth. Episcopal Church of Evanston, and of the Modern Woodmen, Columbian Knights and Knights of Pythias.

Mr. Ortlund and his wife, Emma Josephine, have three children, Victor E., Vincent E. R. and Paulina M.

MARTIN P. ROSENDAHL,

who has been established in Evanston since 1891 as a painter and



MARTIN P. ROSENDAHL.

interior decorator, came to Chicago in the spring of 1888 and worked in that city until the next fall, when he located in Evanston. After three years he went into business in partnership with M. L. Holmgren. In 1893 this firm was dissolved and Mr. Rosendahl started a business of his own. He is today one of the leading painters and decorators in the city.

Mr. Rosendahl does not permit business to engross his attention to the exclusion of higher interests, From its organization in 1887, he has been a member of the Immanuel Swedish Lutheran Church. From 1895 to 1897 he acted as secretary of the congregation. Since 1895 he has been on the board of trustees and served as its treasurer. Since 1896 he has been on the board of deacons also and acts as its secretary. Mr. Rosendahl has served for several years as Sunday school superintendent and has been active in behalf of the church in various minor capacities.

Mr. Rosendahl was born in Östraby, Skåne, Sweden, June 16, 1867. His father, Per Svenson, who was the owner of a country estate, died in 1882, and his mother, Elna Mårtenson, in 1906, both at Östraby. The son, after completing the common school courses, was educated in the technical school in Malmö, in which city he learned his trade.

Mr. Rosendahl has been twice married. His first wife, whom he wedded in 1893, was Miss Louisa Gustafson, who died within four months after marriage. Jan. 18, 1902, he took a second wife, Miss Lydia R. Dahlström, daughter of August and Augusta Dahlström of St. Charles, Ill. Three children have been born to them, Eleanor Violet, Dec. 1, 1902, Martin Carl Irving, Oct. 18, 1904, and Marie Lillian, Aug. 23, 1906. The family residence is at 915 Greenleaf st.

GUSTAF K. STARK,

minister of the Swedish Lutheran Augustana Synod, was born Jan.



GUSTAF KNUT STARK

15, 1867, in Eksjö, Småland, Sweden, where his father, Johan Gustaf Johnson, was a carpenter by trade. The family emigrated in the summer of 1875, settling first in Tidioute, Pa., where Gustaf began his schooling. In early years he left home to seek employment, and was for a succession of years a salesman in stores in Pennsylvania and Chicago, working for a time in the wholesale house of Marshall Field & Co.

At the age of eighteen he was enrolled at Augustana College, and for a number of years oscillated between studying and preaching or teaching parochial and public school, for which latter he passed teacher's examination. Finally he completed the theological course at Augustana College and was ordained to the ministry in 1894. His first pastoral charge after ordination was at Pittsburg, Pa., where he served until 1897. Accepting a call to work in the mission field in Illinois and Wisconsin, he organized congregations at Kenosha, Racine and Milwaukee, Wis., and at Waukegan, Ill. In 1901 he transferred his activities to Evanston, where he was pastor of the Immanuel Swedish Lutheran Church. Resigning in 1907, he has become superintendent of the work of the Anti-Saloon League of Illinois among the Swedish, Norwegian and Danish churches.

Mr. Stark's parents are both deceased. His father died in Rockford in 1897, and his mother, Mrs. Martha C. Johnson, née Stark, passed away in 1905. She made her home with her son in Evanston. Two brothers of Mr. Stark are also in the ministry, viz., F. M. Johnson of Chicago and A. W. Stark of De Kalb, Ill.

Rev. Mr. G. K. Stark has served as president and secretary of the North Chicago Mission district of the Illinois Conference and as secretary of the Swedish Lutheran Ministers' Association of Chicago. He is also a member and secretary of the board of directors of the Anti-Saloon League of Illinois and of the Chicago Law and Order League.

He was elected a member of the first board of directors and treasurer of the Salem Home for the Aged at Joliet. He has edited and published for ten years *Luther-Baneret*, a religious monthly.

He is a fluent speaker and preaches with equal facility in the English and Swedish languages.

Oct. 18, 1894, he was wedded to Miss Jennie Virginia Peterson, daughter of Per August and Anna Peterson of Rockford, Ill. Four children have been born to them: Le Roy Theophilus Daniel, Dec. 11, 1896; Linden Lichty David June 25, 1899; Ethel May Eveline Dec. 15, 1903; Leland William Frederick Sept. 5, 1907.

CARL G. WALLENIUS,

editor and historian for his church, was born Dec. 18, 1865, in Hå-



CARL G. WALLENIUS

tuna, Upland, Sweden. His parents were Carl Wallenius, a Methodist pastor, and Gustava, née Björklund.

Having graduated from the collegiate school in Visby, Gotland, in 1886, he was matriculated as a student in the University of Upsala with the intention to prepare himself for the ministry in the State Church. The next year, however, he accepted a call to become assistant pastor in the Methodist Church at Jönköping. In 1888 he emigrated to the United States and studied theology at the Boston University. In January, 1889, Mr. Wallenius became an instructor in the Swedish Theological Seminary at Evanston and assistant editor of *Väktaren*, a weekly paper, published by the Swedish M. E. Book Concern in Chicago. Professor Wallenius gave instruction in the seminary for fourteen years, resigning in 1906 to become pastor of the Methodist Church at Donovan, Ill.

He is the author of "Svenska Metodismen i Amerika," published in 1895, and was associate editor of *Sändebudet* 1901–02 and editor of *Epworth Klockan*, a semi-monthly magazine, 1903–06.

Prof. Wallenius is one of the scholarly men of his church. He was acting president of the Swedish-American Historical Society in 1907.

Rev. Prof. Wallenius was married in Chicago in 1894 to Miss Hilda Johnson, and they have five children.

JOHN E. HILLBERG

was born Dec. 9, 1873, in Malmköping, Sweden. His father, Emanuel Hellberg, was a pioneer preacher of Methodism in Sweden, having first spent some time as an evangelist in England. His mother was before her marriage a schoolteacher in Stockholm.

After having graduated in 1888 from the manual training course in Maria Collegiate School in Stock-



JOHN EMANUEL HILLBERG

holm he became a bookkeeper at Bolinder's iron works, remaining there over three years. At the same time he spent two years as civil engineering student at the Technical Institute of Stockholm.

Arriving in America on July 4, 1892, he went to Worcester, Mass. The following year he entered the theological seminary at Evanston and graduated in 1895. He has served as pastor of the Swedish Methodist churches in Mt. Vernon, N. Y., 1895–99, Bridgeport, Conn., 1899–1902, and Brooklyn, N. Y., 1902–06. In the last named city he was pastor of the largest Swedish M. E. church in this country. In 1901–02 he spent some months traveling and studying in several countries in Europe. The trip was extended as far as Egypt, Palestine and Syria. On his return he wrote a book entitled "Bilder från Bibelländer" (Pictures from Bible Lands).

He published (1898–1902) a monthly entitled *Ungdomsvännen*. Since 1906 he has been editor of *Epworth Klockan*, the official young people's magazine of the Swedish M. E. denomination. Simultaneously he accepted a call to become instructor in the Swedish M. E. Theological Seminary.

Professor Hillberg is secretary of the Eastern Conference of the M. E. Church, and is Librarian of the Swedish-American Historica Society.

He was married in 1897 to Miss Hannah Lundgren, daughter of J. W. Lundgren, foreman at the rolling mills in Worcester, Mass.

FRANK A. LUNDBERG,

instructor at the Swedish M. E. Theological Seminary, was born April 11, 1875, at Halsberg,



FRANK A. LUNDBERG

Nerike, Sweden. His father, a railway track inspector, was a prominent member of the local Methodist church. At an early age the son was brought to this country by his parents, who settled on a farm in Georgetown, Texas. Young Lundberg attended the university at Fort Worth, and took his bachelor's degree with honors

in 1905. The same year he came to Evanston to pursue philosophical studies at the Northwestern University. He was called as instructor in English and mathematics in the Swedish Theological Seminary and assumed this position at the opening of the school year that fall.

Mr. Lundberg is an eloquent speaker, who uses Swedish and English with the same fluency. In 1903 he was chosen to represent the Fort Worth University in an inter-collegiate oratorical contest with seven other participants, and carried off the honors of the day, winning the oratorical prize, a large gold medal.

Mr. Lundberg will graduate from the Northwestern University Medical School in 1908.

HENNING COLLIANDER,

pastor of the Bethany Swedish Lutheran Church at Lemont, Ill., was born in the parish of Wederslöf, Sweden, March 12, 1863. His father, Anders Colliander, who had charge of a railway station and post office in Sweden, died in 1876. His mother, Jenny Colliander, is still living and owns a millinery store in Vexiö, Sweden.

Mr. Colliander completed a college course in Sweden in 1886 and intended to study theology at the University of Upsala, when a Lutheran pastor from America visiting Sweden and hearing him preach, exhorted him to join the Augustana Synod and continue his studies in this country. After holding a good position as teacher and assistant pastor in Sweden for two years, he left for the United States in 1888 and entered Au-



HENNING COLLIANDER

gustana College. As a student he had charge of the congregations in Irwin, Greensburg and Houtzdale, Pa. He entered the Theological Seminary at Rock Island in 1889 and accepted a call to the Swedish Lutheran Church of Houtzdale, Pa., when he was ordained in 1891. A few years after he was called to Norway and Bark River, Mich., where he spent nearly eight years and did much work as a pastor and missionary. In the fall of 1900 he moved to Lemont and took charge of the church there. He is a member of the board of directors of the Lutheran Orphans' Home in Joliet, Ill., and has served as its secretary since 1902.

Rev. Colliander was married Oct. 28, 1896, to Miss Agnes Holmberg of Karlskrona, Sweden. The mar-

riage is blessed with two sons: Harald, born in 1897, and Einar, in 1900.

PETER A. NELSON

was born in Öland, Sweden, March 4, 1860. He came to this country



PETER A. NELSON

when but eleven years of age and was educated in Joliet and Lockport. At present his home is in Lemont, where he gradually forged ahead until he was entrusted with the highest office in the town, that of mayor. Prior to this he held many offices of trust. In January, 1903, he was appointed postmaster of Lemont, having previously served as treasurer four terms and member of the board of education for three years. Wherever Mr. Nelson happens to center his interests, there he soon attracts public attention, followed by his election to some office or other.

In the many societies, of which he is a member, he takes a prominent part.

He has been secretary of the Lemont Electric Light and Power Co. and a director of the Lemont State Bank.

In 1882, at the age of 21, Mr. Nelson embarked in a general merchandise business, in which he has continued with marked success up to the present.

JOHN A. SKARIN

was born Sept. 25, 1856, in Järbo parish, Dalsland, Sweden. He attended public school until he was fifteen years of age, when he secured a position as clerk in a dry goods store in Göteborg. After three years, the art of photography attracted him, and he worked as a photographer's assistant for one year, subsequently



JOHN AUGUST SKARIN

opening a gallery of his own. This business he followed with

success until his emigration to Canada in 1880.

The next year Mr. Skarin was working in the mines in Michigan, along the shores of Lake Superior. From there he came to Lemont, and obtained a position as clerk in a grocery store. After two years of conscientious work he was enabled to open a store of his own and is now one of the prosperous merchants of the place.

Both in the church and in other public life Mr. Skarin is an active worker. As soon as he reached Lemont he joined the Bethany Swedish Lutheran Church, and has been for many years treasurer and trustee.

Mr. Skarin was one of the first to hold public office in Lemont. In 1897 he was nominated and elected alderman on the reform ticket, and the following year was elected a member of the board of education. His popularity was proved by his receiving an overwhelming majority at the polls.

Mr. Skarin is a charter member of the Swedish Republican Benevolent Association and a member of other organizations.

He was married in 1878 to Elizabeth K. Anderson, and of their six children, three sons and two daughters survive. These are, Adolph Agathon, trav. salesman for the Steele-Wedeles Co., married to Miss Marjorie Wahlstrom of Chicago; Carl Richard, bookkeeper for the Chicago Biscuit Co., married to Miss Gerda Larson of Chicago; Agnes Ingeborg, Alda Elisabeth and Nathanaiel Jennison.

AXEL F. BENSON

was born Oct. 28, 1873, in the city of Filipstad, Sweden. He came



AXEL FERDINAND BENSON

to this country in 1895 and remained for six months in Braddock, Pa., acting as assistant to Rev. G. E. Carlson. While in Sweden he studied at the Methodist Seminary in Upsala, and his aim was to continue that work here. He took up study at the Northwestern Academy and completed the same at the Swedish Seminary at Evanston. After laboring in the ministry for eight years he went back to the Northwestern University for one year and began a course at the medical college of the University of Illinois. In the fall of 1907 he again assumed his old pastorate at Batavia.

May 31, 1899, Rev. Benson was

married to Miss Selma Swanson, a graduate of Batavia High School, and their home is in Batavia. Their one child is a boy, Merrill Filip, born in 1900.

AUGUST PETERSON

was born at Dörarp, Småland, Oct 26, 1866. He left Sweden in



AUGUST PETERSON

1885, at the age of nineteen, having obtained his early education in the common school of the parish. Coming to this country, he lived first at Lockport and later at Oak Park, before finally settling at Maywood. At Lockport he worked as a farm hand and at Oak Park was employed by Mr. Dunlop, a banker. For the past eighteen years Mr. Peterson has been contracting for building and carpentry in Maywood and surrounding villages. The carpenter's trade he learned from his father, Peter Svensson, who followed that occupation in Dörarp.

Mr. Peterson is an active member of the Swedish Luth. Church of Maywood, having served for various periods on the boards of trustees and deacons, and as treasurer of the former body.

He has been married, his wife, Annie Olivia, née Svenson, passing away in 1902, leaving two children, a daughter, Esther Grace Olivia, and a son, Clarence August.

AUGUST PETERSON

was born April 29, 1866, in Hörröd, Strö parish, Skåne. In 1884 he emigrated from Sweden and has lived ever since in Maywood.

When Mr. Peterson first came to this country, he worked in the Union Brass Foundry of Adams



AUGUST PETERSON

& Westlake in Chicago. Locating in Maywood, he embarked in the grocery business and has for the past seventeen years met with ever increasing prosperity.

The parents of Mr. Peterson are Per Jönson, a farmer at Hörröd, and Pernilla, his wife.

Mr. Peterson is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and has served for a period on its board of trustees.

He is married to Selma Johnson from Öfvarp, Sweden. Their children are, Alice E., Ethel P. and Mabel A.

The Peterson family live in a comfortable home of their own at 124 S. Fifth ave.

EDWARD W. BENSON,

for three terms president of the village of Melrose Park, has been active in the affairs of the village for ten years of the twenty that he has resided there. He served on the board of village trustees for five years prior to his election as president of that board, and was also a member of the school board for three years.

Mr. Benson was born in Upland, Sweden, and came to the United States with his parents when two years old. The Benson family located first at River Forest, coming to Melrose Park about twenty years ago. In business Mr. Benson is a general contractor. He gained his first experience in the business in Denver, Colo., in 1888–89, thereafter pursuing his calling in his home town.

Besides holding the reigns of government in a manner that won the full confidence of the people of Melrose Park, Mr. Benson has taken a leading part in the social and religious life of the village. He is one of the trustees of the Swedish M. E. Church, superinsendent of the Sunday school and



EDWARD W. BENSON

has served for many years as president of the Epworth League. In fraternal life Mr. Benson affiliates with the Royal Circle. Far from being a politician in the general acceptation of the term, he has not used his position as a means to further political ambitions. The office of village president was thrust upon him by the people at large, and he prized the gift because it carried with it not only the votes of his fellow citizens but their esteem and confidence as well.

Mr. Benson resides at 51 Seventeenth ave., and his parents, John and Elsa Benson, are still living in Melrose Park.

CHARLES P. BENSON

was born May 17, 1873, at Bofors, Vermland, Sweden. His wife,

Jennie, née Magnuson, was born in May of the same year, in Vestergötland.



CHARLES P. BENSON

Mr. Benson came to this country in May, 1893, and settled in Chicago, where he attended the Association Business College and then worked as a bookkeeper. Later, Oak Park became the field for various activities. Here he published a non-denominational Swedish quarterly, explaining the Sunday school lessons. He has organized a manufacturing stock company, of which he is secretary and treasurer. The company manufactures a newly patented collapsible baby carriage.

Mr. Benson is a Baptist and a most active church worker. He has been superintendent of the Sunday school for more than ten years and president of the Young People's Society for about the same period.

Besides his many other interests, Mr. Benson is a director of the Laborers' Gold. Silver and Copper Mining Co. of Golden, B. C. He is a member of the Royal Arcanum.

Two sons have been born in the Benson family, Daniel, in 1900, and Milton Le Roy in 1902.

ANNY WERNER LINDER,

M. D., was born in Karlskrona, Sweden, Jan. 12, 1873. She began attending school at the early age of four years and a half, and later entered high school, from which she graduated at the head of her class. The family removed to Stockholm, and there she continued her studies, at the same time



ANNY WERNER LINDER

taking a course in mechanical drawing. Later she studied manual therapeutics and, after graduation, went first to Finland and then to Russia, in which countries she lived for nearly six years, practicing her profession and also

doing translations for newspapers. While in Odessa she decided to emigrate to America. Throwing up her practice, she went to Stockholm and thence to New York, arriving in March, 1894.

Here she was soon on the way to success, many physicians seeking her services.

She left her practice in the fall of 1895, and went on a lecturing and demonstrating tour for the Whitely Exerciser Co. of Chicago and New York, in the larger cities of the United States. For this purpose she made several charts of instruction for home gymnastics, based on the Swedish system. She has lectured to many prominent ladies' clubs, Y. W. C. A., high and normal schools and colleges.

The medical profession being her final goal, she came to Chicago in 1899 and matriculated in the National Medical University, attending both the medical and osteopathic departments. In April, 1901, she passed successfully the State Board of Health examination and became a state licentiate in manual therapeutics. In 1902 she received the degree of Doctor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery from the university. In October, the same year, she entered the American College of Medicine and Surgery, the medical department of Valparaiso University in Indiana, graduating in May, 1903.

She was elected professor of the chair of manual therapeutics in the Chicago College for Nurses in the fall of 1902, and has filled the same chair at both insiitutions since Oct. 1, 1903.

She was married to Mr. A. Linder of Oak Park June 2, 1899, and has her home and practice there.

Dr. Linder is an accomplished linguist, speaking, besides the Scandinavian languages, English, Finnish, Russian, Spanish, French and German.

AUGUSTINUS L. LINDER

was born Aug. 28, 1867, in Nyby, Småland. He studied in the high



AUGUSTINUS LEONARD LINDER

school in Venersborg, and in 1888 left Sweden. In this country he has lived in Dunkirk, N. Y., Milwaukee, Wis., Chicago and Oak Park. While in Chicago he attended the Northwestern Commercial School, from which he graduated.

Mr. Linder is engaged in business both in Oak Park and Chi-

cago. In Chicago he has a store for artistic decorating and contracting at The Plaza, 646 North Clark st., at Oak Park he is a member of the firm of Lowrey & Linder Co. at 129–131 Lake st.

The many lodges, to which Mr. Linder belongs, are, Odd Fellows, North American Union, Irondequoit Lodge No. 301, A. F. and A. M.; Dunkirk Chapter No. 191, Royal Arch Masons of Dunkirk, N. Y.; Siloam Commandery No. 54, Kt. Templars of Oak Park, and Medinah Temple, Ancient Arabic Order of Noble Mystic Shrine of Chicago. He is a member of the Phoenix Club, the Business Men's Association, the Master Painters' and Decorators' Ass., all of Oak Park, and Master Painters' Association of Chicago.

For several months during the years 1893 and '94 Mr. Linder visited England, France and Sweden. In 1899, on June 2, he was married to Miss Anny Werner of Stockholm, Sweden.

OTTO E. LOVEN

was born in Sweden Feb. 11, 1871. His parents intended him to enter upon a musical career, and to that end he began taking piano lessons at twelve years of age. After two years, his father concluded to change this plan. In order to fit him for a commercial life, he set him to studying the elementary branches. At sixteen the boy became a salesman in a dry goods store in Malmö. But having no taste for this occupation, he tried, with the assistance of his brother, who was a traveling postal clerk, to enter the mail service. But this avenue was suddenly closed to him, a new law requiring applicants for the postal service to have completed a college course. He next learned the watchmaker's trade, and then embarked for America. On his arrival in Chi-



OTTO E. LOVEN

cago in June, 1890, he discovered that no one wanted to employ a nineteen year old watchmaker, so he was compelled to look for other employment. All sorts of hard and uncongenial work was done until he finally succeeded in securing a position as a watchmaker. He began with the firm of R. Chester, Frost & Co and remained there until 1895, when he visited the old country. On his return he worked for the same firm, as foreman and later as manager of a new watch department.

In 1902 Mr. Loven bought a jewelry store. Success attended him here, and he is now acknowledged to be the leading jeweler and optician in Oak Park. All his spare time had been devoted to study at the Northern Illinois Optical College, from which he received a diploma.

Mr. Loven was married in September, 1898, to Miss Ellen Nord, the daughter of a hatter in Oskarshamn.

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